Breath-hold diving – yet another record

Dear Editor

Further to my previous two letters to the Journal concerning breath-hold diving,1,2 I am writing to advise that yet another breath-hold diving record has been broken.

Writing in the News section of *The Daily Telegraph* on 22 July 2003, Richard Luscombe reported from Providenciales Island, Turks and Caicos, that Tanya Streeter had the previous day become the first person to dive to a depth of 400 ft in the ‘variable ballast’ discipline. This is widely regarded as the sport’s toughest because it forbids the use of buoyancy aids and compels the diver to return to surface completely under their own power. The descent in this category is, however, assisted by means of a weighted sled.

The previous women’s record for the category was 311.7 ft and the men’s record, held by Patric Musimu of Belgium, was 393.7 ft. The duration of the dive was 3 min 38 sec.

In October last year a French woman, Audrey Mestre, died whilst attempting to break Streeter’s record dive of 525 ft in the ‘no limits’ category when her inflatable lift bag designed to propel her back to the surface failed.

Luscombe also reported that her feat made Streeter the only female in any sport to dive to a depth of 64 lb salmon on the river Tay, in Scotland and, much to the chagrin of many male game anglers, this still stands as the largest salmon ever caught on a rod and line.

Similarly, on 24 July 2003, Kevin Glover wrote to claim that in 1990, whilst he was on secondment to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office from the Royal Navy and serving as the Senior Police Officer, Royal Overseas Police, on the Island of Diego Garcia, he too appeared on a set of postage stamps that celebrated the island’s British stewardship. He went on to say that it has often crossed his mind that by doing so he had, inadvertently, broken royal protocol.

The following day, Tom Webb wrote to inform readers that during the siege of Mafeking in 1890 the town ran out of postage stamps. The British commander, Colonel Baden-Powell, famous for founding the Scout movement, used his renowned initiative and had replacements printed: the penny stamp with a picture of one of the boy messengers serving in Mafeking, and the three penny blue with Baden-Powell’s own head on the stamp. Queen Victoria was not amused.

Nigel McKie
Helston, Cornwall, United Kingdom
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References

Well not quite! In the same paper on 23 July 2003, Charles Heap wrote to the Editor and reported that in 1922 a Miss G W Ballantine caught a 64 lb salmon on the river Tay, in Scotland and, much to the chagrin of many male game anglers, this still stands as the largest salmon ever caught on a rod and line.

DECOMPRESSION ILLNESS (DCI) in the SE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION in 2002
Divers treated for DCI as reported to DAN-SEAP by recompression chambers
**Book reviews**

**Bennett and Elliott’s physiology and medicine of diving, 5th edition**

Alf O Brubakk, Tom S Neuman (eds)

864 pages, hardback
Elsevier Science Limited, 2003
Available from Best Publishing Company, P O Box 30100, Flagstaff, Arizona 86003-0100, USA.
Ph: +1-928-527-1055; Fax: +1-928-526-0370
E-mail: <divebooks@bestpub.com>
Copies can be ordered online at <www.bestpub.com>
Price US$149.00, postage and packing extra

If you are looking for the ‘nitty-gritty’, fine print or definitive text on diving medicine, then look no further than this comprehensive classic tome. The 5th edition of *Bennett and Elliott’s Physiology and Medicine of Diving* is edited by Alf O Brubakk and Tom S Neuman and at 779 pages is not a book to be stuffed in your dive bag. The first edition was published in 1969 and it is 10 years since the last edition in 1993. The focus of this new edition is on “the physiology of diving and the effects of pressure and gas composition as well as the clinical issues affecting divers”. Many new chapters have been included, such as the biochemistry of oxygen under pressure and an important topical chapter on the long-term effects of diving.

Fifteen main chapters, with some further subdivided (seven sub-chapters on decompression, for instance), are divided along mechanistic lines and explore every tiny niche of diving medicine. The book evolves from an opening “Outline of the History of Diving Physiology and Medicine”. An agonizing account of crippled Caisson Workers and notes on the brilliant pioneering work of Haldane provide a poignant platform on which the text develops. The chapters then provide a detailed dissection of many core topics including decompression, pressure effects and long-term effects of diving. There are fascinating chapters on breathhold diving, comparative diving physiology and the sobering chapter on the investigation and pathology of diving accidents.

This book is a rich and thorough compilation of diving medicine and physiology and with 45 international expert contributors, it is as good as you will get. Chapters are thoroughly researched and referenced with some having over 400 references.

Of particular note to us in the Antipodes are the excellent contributions to the book from Australasian authors. Bob Wong’s chapter on “Empirical diving techniques” provides an international overview of divers who have relied on experience and observation alone in the execution of their dives. Many of these commercial sea harvesters, provoked by economic necessity, push the limits and suffer a high incidence of decompression sickness (DCS) or dysbaric osteonecrosis. Bob’s chapter is enriched by his personal experience with the pearl divers from Broome in Western Australia.

James Francis, with Simon Mitchell, demonstrate their expertise in the area of decompression with two chapters on the pathophysiology of DCS and its clinical manifestations. These thoroughly referenced chapters give us a state-of-the-art update on systemic bubble injury at both a cellular and clinical level and are well illustrated with both pathological clinical and microscopic photographs.

Des Gorman, with American Richard Moon, clearly describes the treatment of the decompression disorders, outlining the evaluation of the patient and useful investigations. A thorough literature review of decompression illness and treatments is presented in a long table and there is a comprehensive analysis of both recompression and adjunctive treatments.

This book is a gem. Faults are few; the same photograph of lymphatic DCS is used on pages 584 and 606, and an author encourages the insertion of a padded spacer between the teeth to prevent laceration of the tongue in the management of hyperoxic seizures! The book will have an amazing effect on you...like Frenchman Junod’s compressed air in 1835,

> “the functions of the brain are activated, imagination is lively, thoughts have a peculiar charm and, in some persons, symptoms of intoxication are present.”

Enjoy!

‘Sandy’ Inglis
Emergency Department, Christchurch Hospital

**Key words**
Book reviews, textbook, underwater medicine
SPUMS ASM 2003, Kuror, Palau

Michael Bennett, Scientific Convenor, above and below with David Vote

Guest Speaker Professor Des Gorman (right) with Geoff Skinner

Cathy Meehan, Conference Convenor, with Geoff Long

David Wilkinson, SPUMS diplomate, wishing everyone a Happy Christmas from the SPUMS editorial team

Des Gorman, left, with the Editor

Barbara Trytko, SPUMS diplomate, with Martin Sayer, UK
The report on the data from the 1998–2000 survey of scuba diving for disabled divers and divers with other conditions that may affect their diving (injuries, surgery and disease)

Susie Shelley, Marguerite St Leger Dowse and Phil Bryson

Soft cover, 208 pages  
ISBN 0-9525152-2-9  
Plymouth: Diving Diseases Research Centre, 2002  
Available from the Diving Diseases Research Centre, Hyperbaric Medical Centre, Tamar Science Park, Research Way, Plymouth PL6 8BU, United Kingdom  
Ph: +44-(0)1752-209999; Fax: +44-(0)1752-209115  
E-mail: <enquiries@ddrc.org>  
Price GBP15.00, postage and packaging extra

This 201-page report presents results from two surveys conducted in the UK. The Training Groups Questionnaire (TGQ) gained perspective on actual numbers of people with ‘disabilities’ trained to scuba dive either via amateur group clubs, such as the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC) or professional dive centres and schools, such as the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI). The Personal Questionnaire (PQ) gained information from individual divers about their condition and others’ attitudes towards them. The report was published to make the results of the two surveys accessible to anyone with an interest in this area and readable for non-scientists. A short chapter on diving theory covers the basics to give non-divers an understanding of why diving has aspects that make it different to other sports.

The definition of ‘disabled’ included people who were “injured, had surgery, or other condition or disease”. The disabilities most experienced by the training groups were learning disabilities (41 groups), visual impairment, hearing impairment and amputation. Spinal cord injury was also fairly high (13), with very few groups having experience of cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, spina bifida and other such conditions.

There was a high response rate from individual divers completing the PQ (74% return). The majority of divers (60%) had learned to dive after their disability or injury. Interestingly, and somewhat conflicting with the TGQ results, the majority of respondents (54) had a “spinal injury or disease” and only four described themselves as having a learning disability.

Certainly elements of the report would provide valuable reference reading for anyone who already trains people with disabilities, or is considering starting. There are useful statistics and helpful comments regarding facilities, special equipment requirements, additional time required etc., as well as excellent insights from the divers themselves. There are also some useful comments regarding what you can and cannot do under the UK Disability Discrimination Act (1995), and the Act is presented in an appendix; well worth a read if an employer is considering offering diver training for people with disabilities.

For an instructor, the section on diving problems gives insight into how they may be avoided. It was interesting to read of the various restrictions that the training establishments impose: 40% of the groups would impose “must dive with two other divers”, 18% would specify “must dive with an instructor”, 65% would apply a maximum depth limit, 23% a maximum time limit, and 14% said they would limit the number of dives per day.

For dive training organisations, or disability support groups, insight is gleaned as to customer awareness and satisfaction. The survey asked which organisation the potential diver contacted for advice and how helpful their responses were. A helpline was frequently suggested; however, many potential divers seemed unaware of the support already available from an organisation specialising in training for disabled divers. The agency contacted most frequently was BSAC (62% of the 203 divers) with only 74% reporting that the response was “helpful”. BSAC may wish to conduct further consumer feedback to identify opportunities for improvement.

For potential divers with disabilities, existing divers share some practical solutions to equipment modifications, such as the use of webbed gloves, redistribution of weights, positioning of knives and torches for easy access and the use of a retainer to hold in the mouthpiece. I should imagine reading the comments from others with a similar disability would also prove comforting.

For the medical community, the section on medicals and medication provides enlightening (self-reported) comments, and reports advice received by disabled divers from their medical practitioners and the medications they were taking. Where the advice or medication was controversial, or inappropriate, the editors have made comments relating to diving medicine guidelines. It is worth noting that at the time these surveys were conducted (1998–1999) the sports diving medical examination was part of the procedure for entry into scuba diving if learning through the amateur clubs, but in 2001 the system changed to follow the same procedure that PADI has used for a number of years. This is a self-completed medical statement where the prospective trainee generally receives further advice or a full medical examination only if statements arouse concerns over fitness to dive. What this section does highlight are the areas of educational need amongst general practitioners relating to their understanding of diving physiology and changes that occur in the underwater environment.
The report presents a vast array of information. The language is certainly easily understandable, although to make it more reader friendly for the lay person it may have benefited from bullet-point summaries of the main points at the start of each chapter. A particularly helpful addition would have been a checklist of key points for a disabled person who is considering learning to dive, and a checklist for a training group who is considering teaching diving to disabled people. All in all, a lot of information is captured but some of the value may be lost because the report may not be read in detail.

Lynn Taylor
Glaxo Smith Kline, Auckland

Key words
Book reviews, diving, disabilities

Medical assessment of fitness to dive: a physician's guide for recreational diving

J Wendling, R Ehrsom, P Knessl, P Nussberger, A Uské

International edition, translated by P Hendricksen
183 pages, paperback, non-illustrated
ISBN 3-9522284-1-9
Biel, Switzerland: Hyperbaric Editions, 2001

This is the long-awaited English translation of the famous Swiss handbook on diving medical assessment. Australasian readers will see immediately that it has a format very similar to the two textbooks on this subject previously written by Dr John Parker. As such, the text is diagnostically orientated. This is not in keeping with modern trends in health surveillance, but that is not to say that this book is not worthwhile.

Indeed, I would regard this book as having a very significant purpose. This purpose is (as is usually the case) eloquently described by Professor David Elliott in his foreword to the book. He describes this as a book that a purchaser would not read, but would use as a desk reference. I agree entirely with this assessment.

It follows then, that this is not a book that I would recommend highly as a treatise on occupational and/or recreational diving fitness, but one that I would recommend as a desk reference for someone who was interested in undertaking assessments of people’s medical fitness for diving.

In that regard, the book is comprehensive, well laid out, and pragmatic in its advice. There are some instances of ‘translation difficulty’, but overall the text allows rapid assimilation of information. As cited above, the book then has considerable utility.

Des Gorman
Occupational Medicine Unit, University of Auckland

Key words
Book reviews, medical diving, medical conditions and problems

Lonely Planet: Diving and snorkelling New Zealand

Jenny and Tony Enderby

Published by Lonely Planet Publications, 2002
ISBN 1-74059-267-0
Paperback, 160 pages
Price A$25.30
Available from all good bookshops

As a newcomer to both New Zealand and diving, I was interested to read what the Lonely Planet team had to say about the diving and snorkelling experiences on offer in the Land of the Long White Cloud. The country boasts a coastline almost as long as that of the continental United States, from the subtropical waters of the North Island to the subantarctic environment of the South. The diversity of its breathtaking landscape is reflected in the diving possibilities in its waters. “Options range from freshwater lakes, rivers and springs to rocky reefs, towering kelp forests, historic shipwrecks and islands riddled with caves and archways.”

Few New Zealanders live further than two to three hours’ drive from the coast so it is not surprising that the country is home to more divers per capita than any other in the world. The book has been compiled by two such divers, photojournalists from Auckland, who may be responsible for the high pictorial content of the book.

The book begins in typical Lonely Planet style to those familiar with their format, with an overview of the history and geography of the country and practical information to help the tourist: details of the main travel routes to get here, conditions of entry and helpful tips for what to bring. A brief introduction to the activities and attractions available to the visitor focuses on water sports and a unique marine environment. New Zealand is home to many sea mammals including the Hector’s dolphin, the world’s smallest marine dolphin and on the ever-growing list of endangered species. Next, an introduction to diving facilities in the country, with tips on pre-trip preparation and listings of emergency contact numbers. With high-quality medical facilities within easy reach, relatively few dangerous marine animals and little endemic disease, NZ is a fairly safe dive destination.
The book carries on to present 75 of the best dive sites around New Zealand (including the 10 best snorkelling sites), split into 13 geographical regions. Each region is introduced in general and features a quick checklist of the dive sites within it, with diving difficulty and suitability for snorkelling listed. A map of the area pinpoints each dive site. More detailed descriptions of each dive site follow, with icon lists for easy reference that highlight particular features (such as strong currents or poor visibility). Exact location, depth range, access arrangements and an expertise rating are given.

Points of general interest are interspersed among the listings, for example, the circumstances surrounding the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior in 1985, now one of the most popular wreck dives in Northland. The reader will also find interesting meteorological and geographical facts, information about unusual examples of sea life and diving tips dotted around.

The book is crammed full of colour pictures and visually very appealing. The checklists and icons make quick reference easy and the listing of the dive sites in short entries make it perfect for repeated quick dips. The format is slim and lightweight, an essential consideration for the traveller. My only criticism would be that the dive site locations are not specific enough. Having navigated the length of the east coast of Australia using a Lonely Planet guide alone, I was disappointed to find that I would have to consult a local to find the dive sites in Kaikoura, despite the fact that I have visited the Peninsula more than once. Having said this, the book finishes with a comprehensive list of the diving services and visitor information centers in each region, and if all else fails those locals I mentioned will undoubtedly be happy to point you in the right direction.

All in all, Lonely Planet appear to have successfully applied their winning formula yet again to this practical and appealing guide for the diving visitor to New Zealand.

Sarah Webb
Editorial Assistant, SPUMS Journal

Key words
Book reviews, tourism, diving

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Deep New Zealand: blue water, black abyss
Peter Batson
Principal photography by Kim Westerkov

240 pages, paperback
ISBN 1-877257-09-5
Christchurch, New Zealand: Canterbury University Press, 2003
Price NZ$49.95
Available from all good bookshops

Most of the living space on this planet, the deep sea and the deep ocean floor, has never seen sunlight. Only a tiny portion of this region, by far our largest ecosystem, has been explored so far. New species of animals and plants are discovered on an almost daily basis from deep-sea trawls, submersibles and bottom dredges. The bizarre nature of these life forms, what little is known of their life cycles, their diversity and how the different parts of this huge ecosystem may be linked are the main topics of this wonderful book.

*Deep New Zealand* is the result of an international cooperative effort brought together by a young marine scientist working for his PhD at Dunedin University. Whilst concentrating on New Zealand’s Exclusive Economic Zone, which is one of the world’s largest, the messages in this book are far from parochial. This is a truism since no organism recognises man-made boundaries and much of the ocean space the author writes about is shared with our nearest neighbour, Australia; we are both part of the great Southern Ocean system. Batson’s style of writing is authoritative and informative but at the same time relaxed. He displays a sense of humour never far below the surface that ensures it is a very lay-friendly book. His sense of wonderment and excitement about the enormous diversity of life in our oceans is decidedly infectious.

The book is beautifully illustrated. Peter and David Batson’s pen-and-ink line drawings either as black-on-white or as reverse negatives are superb. Other illustrations range from electron photomicrographs of micro-organisms to formal laboratory pictures of dead specimens such as large fish dredged or trawled from the depths. There are beautiful photos taken from submersibles, by divers, and above the surface of the oceans. Whilst many people, especially marine scientists, have contributed to this collection, a large proportion is the work of an outstanding New Zealand marine photographer, Kim Westerkov. Westerkov’s photography undoubtedly has a lot to do with creating the book’s atmosphere. The reviewer once dived with Westerkov, being allowed to carry one of his cameras, the housing of which flooded during the dive through no fault of its attendant!

Editor’s note: This diving guide book and the book reviewed below allowed us to indulge in some parochialism. Even Chris Acott admitted a few years ago, during the ASM in the Bay of Islands, that the diving was good!
The book is divided into three sections, though the final short one is really a postscript that addresses mankind’s current and potential future impact on the life of the oceans, especially through fishing. In the first section, the ocean floor, the water column above it and the overarching ecology of the oceanic system are described with a clarity that has for the first time given the reviewer a real understanding of how the whole system ticks. Batson describes how, despite having a similar productivity to the land (a recent estimate is 48 billion tonnes of organic carbon each year), the ocean contains only a fraction of the biomass of the terrestrial ecosystem.

The key player in this process is the phytoplankton that harvests the sun’s energy. The transfer of energy upward through the food web is rather inefficient, with only about 20% of the energy contained in one trophic level making it into the next level up. Almost all of the primary food sustaining life in the ocean column and the seabed sinks from the sunlit zone above. This sinking “particle flux” is made up of a diversity of dead and decaying forms but the majority are minute, such as phytoplankton and copopods. More importantly, Batson explains how complex is the dynamic formation and structure of this “rain” of food.

The second and longest section, divided into 16 chapters, describes the biodiversity of the deep ocean. There are many different varieties of phytoplankton, most of the larger species belonging to one of three groups that are described in the first chapter. The next chapter is devoted to protozoa, and then each phylum from the sponges to the diving mammals is dealt with. Rather than trying to be exhaustive, Batson describes representatives of each to give some idea of the biodiversity within each group. Wherever possible these are illustrated in the drawings and photographs.

“Below a depth of 1,500 metres – less than half the average depth of the Pacific – only a tiny number of biological samples has been collected, mere pinpricks in the ocean’s immensity. Who can guess what strange organisms, communities or even ecosystems have yet to be discovered? The challenge – and it is an urgent one – is to find and understand them. Anyone interested?” So says Batson in his final paragraph. This is a superb book, well written and informative, beautifully illustrated and easy to read. Treat yourself and buy one for Christmas.

Michael Davis
Editor, SPUMS Journal

Key words
Book reviews, general interest, marine animals, ecology

Shipwreck heritage: a commentary on the UNESCO Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage

Patrick J O’Keefe

Price GBP27.00
Available from the Institute of Art and Law, 1–5 Cank Street, Leicester, LE1 5GX, UK
E-mail: <info@ial.uk.com>

The recent article in Dive New Zealand by Judy Ann Newton, entitled ‘The second battle of Truk Lagoon’ goes to the heart of the issues over preservation of underwater cultural heritage. What she records is happening on many other dive sites, where there is war wreckage or other interesting remains, which are a temptation.

While to some divers, the very concept of restrictions on taking objects and treasures from wrecks on the sea floor is unacceptable, many other divers are coming to the conclusions expressed in the Minimum Impact Diving (MID) campaign and the negotiations that have been in course to set up agreements and conventions, which preserve the underwater cultural heritage.

The decision of UNESCO on 2 November 2001 to adopt the Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage has been the subject of comment, not only in Dive New Zealand but in many other magazines. This book is the first written commentary that I have been able to find on the Convention and, as such, it provides vital information on the background to the Convention and a detailed analysis of the contents of the Convention.

Dr O’Keefe has been involved in working on legal instruments to protect the underwater cultural heritage for over 30 years. Initially, as an official in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs, he took part in negotiating the agreement between the Netherlands and Australia, concerning old Dutch shipwrecks in 1971. In 1988 he became foundation chairman of the Cultural Heritage Law Committee of the International Law Association, and it was this committee that prepared a draft convention on the protection of underwater cultural heritage, which was adopted by the ILA in Beunos Aires in 1994 and sent to UNESCO for consideration. It became the basis of the early discussions at UNESCO which were to lead to the Convention itself.

Primarily, this is a textbook with the detailed analysis of the Convention needed by lawyers, diplomats, government departments, salvors, shipowners and insurers. However it also explains the origins of the Convention, the history of underwater archaeology and the politics behind the
preparation of the Convention, and is of interest to everyone involved in underwater diving. In the historical introduction, Dr O’Keefe points out that it was only the arrival of the aqualung that allowed for the potentiality of significant underwater research. This, together with manned and remote submersibles, has meant that 98% of all ocean floors can be reached. The invention of the aqualung has also led to diving becoming an increasingly popular recreation.

Underwater archaeology began with the excavation of the Cape Gelidonya wreck in 1960. This wreck was excavated in accordance with longstanding standards of land excavation. A similar painstaking approach was followed in the Mary Rose in the Solent and the Batavia off the coast of Western Australia. However there were a number of other excavations that showed a less painstaking approach to wrecks. This, and a flurry of court cases over wrecks, led to the desire to establish some form of regime that would control underwater excavations and preserve the heritage of the past.

This book deals with the process by which the ILA draft came into being and the steps taken by UNESCO to reach broad agreement among the governments involved. Only Russia, Norway, Turkey, Venezuela and the USA (an observer) opposed the final Convention wording.

The full text of the Convention and the Rules are printed at the beginning of the book. Dr O’Keefe sets out an overview of the Convention and a detailed analysis of the individual articles in the Convention and the Rules concerning activities directed at underwater cultural heritage, which are attached to the Convention. Also included is an exhaustive bibliography of legal textbooks and articles, and the references to the key court cases.

This book is not expensive and can be purchased from the Institute of Art and Law in the United Kingdom. I believe this book will be of considerable interest and value to dive clubs, professional dive organisations and recreational divers as the UNESCO Convention will become increasingly important around the world.

Piers Davies
Reprinted with kind permission of Dive New Zealand Magazine

WORKSHOP ON REMOTE MANAGEMENT OF MILD DCI
MAY 25, 26, 2004, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

The management of DCI in remote locations where hyperbaric facilities are not available is complicated by the need for costly and logistically demanding evacuations. There is a growing body of expert opinion that mild or marginal cases may be as well served by local treatment with surface oxygen, fluids, and drugs followed by non-emergent evacuation. These issues will be discussed during this UHMS Workshop by a body of experts with the objective of developing consensus guidelines for managing mild DCI in remote locations.

Co-chairs Drs. Simon Mitchell and Richard Vann,
Co-editors Dr. David Doolette and Chris Wachholz, R.N.

Continuing Medical Education Units have been applied for in the US and Australia. Attendance fees for the two-day workshop is AUS $350.

For further information contact the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS).
Phone +301-942-2980; e-mail uhms@uhms.org

DIVING HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA, SE ASIA

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Fax: +61-(0)8-558-3490
E-mail: <bramsay@iaccess.com.au>
SPUMS 2004
Annual Scientific Meeting
Noumea – New Caledonia
Venue - Le Meridien Noumea
30 May – 6 June 2004
(meeting to run 1 – 5 June inclusive)

SPUMS meeting to follow UHMS Sydney 2004

Themes
Marine stingers and marine envenomation
Modelling decompression tables

Guest Speakers
Dr Peter Fenner, AM
James Cook University, Queensland
Dr David Doollette, PhD
Adelaide University, South Australia

Convener
Dr Guy Williams
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Phone: +61-(0)3-5981-1555
Fax: +61-(0)3-5981-2213
E-mail: <guyw@surf.net.au>

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Fax: +61-(0)3-9885-1164
Toll Free: 1800338239
E-mail: <allwaysdive@bigpond.com.au>

Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2004
Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney, Australia
25 - 29 May, 2004

This conference attracts International and National researchers and practitioners from a variety of organisations. UHMS is an International, not for profit organisation serving over 2500 members worldwide.

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To register for UHMS 2004, Conference or for more information, please visit the conference website www.iceaustralia.com/uhms2004 or contact the conference organisers: ICE Australia Ph: +61 3 9544 9334 Email: uhms@iceaustralia.com Accommodation and Travel available through the conference website

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Contact us for all your travel requirements within Australia and overseas. Ask about our low cost air fares to all destinations
ANZHMG and ANZCA
INTRODUCTORY COURSE IN DIVING AND HYPERBARIC MEDICINE

Dates: 1 to 12 March, 2004
Venue: Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney
Cost: A$1,600.00 plus GST ($160.00)

This course is designed for medical graduates with an interest in the practice of general hyperbaric medicine, including relevant aspects of diving medicine. It is designed both for those wishing to pursue a career in the field and those whose primary area of interest lies in related areas. Prior experience is not required but would be of advantage. Extensive pre-reading material will be supplied. The course is limited to 20 participants.

The course is jointly sponsored by the ANZHMG, ANZCA and the UHMS. It is accredited with SPUMS for the Diploma of Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine and attracts 70 US CME points.

Contact: Miss Gabrielle Janik, Department of Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine, Prince of Wales Hospital, Barker Street, Randwick, NSW 2031, Australia
Phone: +61-(0)2-9382-3880
Fax: +61-(0)2-9382-3882
E-mail: janikg@sesahs.nsw.gov.au

EUROPEAN UNDERWATER AND BAROMEDICAL SOCIETY
30TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING ON DIVING AND HYPERBARIC MEDICINE

Dates: September 15 to 19, 2004
Venue: Ajaccio, Corsica
Convenor: Dr Bruno Grandjean
Congress organisation: Atout Corse
1, rue Saint Roch, 20000 Ajaccio, France
Phone: +33-(0)495-225293
Fax: +33-(0)495-511040
E-mail: euubs2004@wanadoo.fr
Web site: www.eubs.org

10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EMERGENCY MEDICINE (ICEM 2004)
Speakers are invited for this meeting in Cairns in 2004
Dates: 6 to 10 June, 2004 (follows SPUMS ASM)
Venue: Cairns Convention Centre, Queensland
Contact: Conference Secretariat, Intermedia Convention and Event Management, P O Box 1280, Milton, Queensland 4064, Australia
Phone: +61-(0)7-3858-5535
Fax: +61-(0)7-3858-5510
E-mail: icem2004@im.com.au

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF ANAESTHETISTS
2004 Annual Scientific Meeting
Preliminary Notice
Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Special Interest Group
Dates: 1 to 5 May, 2004
Venue: Perth Concert Hall and Duxton Hotel, Perth
Contact: Katie Clarke, Congress West
E-mail: conwes@congresswest.com.au

SECOND INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE IN THE PACIFIC REGION

Dates: 23 to 25 February, 2004
Venue: Tahiti
All information on this meeting can be found on <wwwemergency-tahiti.com> and booking can be made online. Papers accepted until 23 November 2003.
Contact: Dr Yann Turgeon