

but we stayed for 63 minutes at 56 feet. The ray stayed for awhile then left and a couple more came and then left. After an hour surface interval in which we were given a towel to dry off, tea or water to drink with apple slices and banana bread we returned to the same spot but no rays appeared. We did see two large hump head wrasse, a small shark and many small tropical Fish (butterfly, blemmies, tangs, small parrot, surgeon and a bay pipefish). Bob and The reefs have a variety of coral from lettuce, brain, staghorn, cabbage, plate and pillar to mention a few. They also have a wide variety of marine life, clown fish, anemones, feather dusters, lionfish, leaf fish, wrasse, sharks, eels and turtles, pink skunk clown fish, a baby white tip shark and trigger fish which attached my fins when I stumbled in their nesting area. Night dive: a burrowing crab, several lionfish, nudibranch, starfish, black long spined urchin, slugs, sea cucumbers, hermit crabs, banded coral shrimp and other types of shrimp.

**Yap Divers, Manta Ray Hotel, August 2001, Harry Cure, Jr. (harry@curelawfirm.com) Fort Worth, TX.** Vis: 60-100 ft. Water: 83-84 F, choppy, surge. Logged dives: 1,500+. Some of the best hard corals I have seen. Mantas in large numbers on almost every cleaning station dive. Lots of sea life. The Manta Ray Hotel and Yap Divers provides great service and a wonderful experience.

## **NEW ZEALAND**

### **Poor Knights**

**Dive Tutukaka, Pacific Rendezvous, May 2001, Wayne Batzer**

**(wbatzer@prodigy.net) Kailua, HI.** Experience: 101-250 dives. Vis: 75 to 100 Feet. Water: 64 to 65 F, calm choppy. If anything, better than described in last year's Undercurrent article. The dive boats are quite comfortable, with hot showers. They had steel tanks as an option. The briefings were quite complete, and sea life from small to large was exceptional. The volcanic arches, tubes and caverns of the Poor Knights are beautiful, above and below the surface. I brought my own gear, but the rental equipment appears first rate and well maintained. Pacific Rendezvous was excellent for lodging, the Schnappa Rock restaurant (next to Dive! Tutukaka) has super seafood and a nice selection of New Zealand wines. Several of New Zealand's best photographers use this operation regularly and seem quite pleased. **(Ph: +64 9 4343 867; fax +64 9 4343 884; e-mail info@diving.co.nz; website www.diving.co.nz)**

## **PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

Some of the world's finest diving is in this land just north of Australia whose most consistent feature is its unpredictability. . . . It's a dream destination for live-aboards with unique critters on a big scale: big fish, big coral, big distances, and muck diving. It's also a naturalist's paradise with beautiful topography: mountains covered with snow in July shade, steaming jungles, butterflies as big as birds, walking-stick insects a foot long, and splendid Birds of Paradise. Most