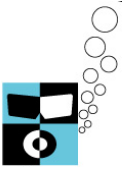




# The Urge to Submerge



The Newsletter of Triton Divers

August 2006 Edition

## NEXT CLUB MEETING 7 SEPTEMBER 2006

The next club meeting is on Thursday 7 September in the Coast Bar of the Royal Beach. Please let us know if you are going to be there so that we can order food. The menu is Steak and Ale Pie for the meat eaters and vegetable pasta for the tree huggers.

## A BUSY MONTH FOR TRAINING AND THE CLUB – THANKS TO YOU

August was extremely busy in many different ways. On the courses front, there were for the first time 5 open water courses being completed in the month. But in addition to the normal PADI AOW, Rescue and first aid courses there were also SMB workshops, diving experience events and photography workshops as well as loads of social and public event activities going on. Including the Southsea show we managed around 200 try dives in the month! The club goes from strength to strength thanks to your help and support and we would like to say a big thank you to all of you who appreciate what we do and support us in our efforts.

## EQUIPMENT NEWS

**Scubapro launch a number of new products and enter the technical market.**



Having not really had a decent torch on the market for some years Scubapro have now brought out an umbilical/handle torch to compete with some of those sold by more "tekkie" diving manufacturers. The Module light has 3 torch head options, HID, LED and standard Halogen and comes in handle or umbilical mode. Prices are very competitive against the competition



Scubapro/Aladin have also finally brought out a 2 gas computer. The company has always produced some excellent dive computers and now have a machine, the Tec 2G, to complete the new line up. It is cheaper than the Suunto Vytac (which has 3 gas options) The Tec 2G comes in wrist or console units and uses infrared download connections to your PC. Hopefully these will be on display at the club night on 7 September.

## BEACH CLEAN 2006



There are quite a few club members who have volunteered for the beach clean on 17 September. However, the more the merrier, so if you can spare a couple of hours please let us know. It is a great opportunity for you to help clean up the marine environment we love. The plan is to meet at **2.00 pm** on the day at the **South Parade pier in Southsea**. We will be given a health and safety brief and issued with all the stuff we need to clean up the beaches, including rubbish pickers and bin bags. The aim is to spend a couple of hours on the beach doing what we can, and hopefully handing out a few leaflets about project AWARE and MCS. This clean up is being run in support of wider campaigns by project AWARE, the Marine Conservation Society. Come and help make a difference.

## SMB WORKSHOP

We ran another SMB workshop in August, again very successful with plenty of club members learning the dark art of deploying a SMB. As we are now coming into September we are not sure how many more club members would like to have this free training. If there are sufficient numbers we will put on another course in September, so if you are interested please let us know and we will sort it out.

## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Our first club members digital photography workshop was conducted in August and was well received. Jo and Steve worked out that their camera didn't do half the things that they thought ... but they can still get some cracking photos with it, and young Jack Hewby doesn't really understand the knobs and whistles but works on the "take loads of photos and one will turn out right principle". Hey, if it works crack on is what I say. The plan is to run another workshop in October, which will be ideal for those club members who are going on the Dahab trip. Dahab offers some great underwater photo opportunities so make the most of it.

## FIRE SERVICE OPEN DAY 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

We are putting up our try dive pool at the Southsea Fire Station (Sommers town) open day on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Try dives and photo certificates will be run and all proceeds will be going to the fire service charities. It is an excellent cause but we need some volunteers to help out with running the pool, kitting out, etc ... pretty much the same as the Southsea Show, but it is only for one day. If you can help out we can offer plenty of long flexible hoses, uniforms and several cold tinnies to cool you down. Please let us know.

## AUGUST COURSE SUCCESSSES

Wow, what a busy month! Well done to the following who have completed courses with us in August.

### Open Water

Richard Elliot, Sophie Bridger, Adam Bywater, Thomas Clancy, Steven Vacher, Benjamin Freeman, Mark Burnett, Rachael Rabe, Paul Farrell, Thomas Burns, Matthew Puddick, Frances Lilley, Paul Cardy, Joanne Prew, Amy Aston, Rebecca Bridger, George Tufnell, James Clarke, Emily Rose, Stuart Jones, Megan Taylor, Andrew Biggs, Samantha Rose, Liam Phair, Adrian Testa, Craig Bryant, Aaron Neary

### Advanced Open Water

Jamie White, Ali McClean, Alex Skalnik, Buij Waran, Jose Rodriguez, Isabel Noble, Barry Fradgley, Ashley Clarke

### Rescue Diver

Ally Rutherford, Terry Oliver, Simon Truswell, Jacqueline Truswell, Penny Murray

### Drysuit

Daniel Miller

### Nitrox

Jo Wheeler, Penny Murray, Sarah Metherell, Daniel Miller

### EFR

Terry Oliver, Simon Tresswell, Jacqueline Truswell, Penny Murray, Sarah Metherell,

### MFA

Susan Cira, Angie Journeaux

### DAN O2

Susan Cira, Angie Journeaux, Ruth Sims, Dan Bryant

### DAN ADVANCED O2

Susan Cira, Angie Journeaux, Ruth Sims, Dan Bryant

## DIVES COMING UP

**9 September** – Louis and Drift. 17m. For OW divers and above with a few dives under their belt.

**10 September** – Mulberry and Landing Craft. 12m dive, excellent for new divers, and photography. Loads of marine life on the mulberry.

**23 September** – Mystery Dive OW+

**24 September** – Mystery Dive AOW+

## NEWLY QUALIFIED DIVEMASTER

Many congratulations to our newest Divemaster, Chris Bartlett. Chris won't be around now for a bit as he is swapping dive kit for desert fatigues. Hope you come back safely soon.



## DIVE EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME REPORT FROM SWANAGE



Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August, 11 club members went off to Swanage to dive the Kyarra and the pier. The Kyarra had 7-10m of visibility and lots of marine life including two massive Pollack and loads of Wrasse. The dip under the pier was a long dip ... in fact very long in a couple of cases. After over an hour the club members on shore did start wondering if everything was ok..... After the diving everyone went round to the White Horse Pub and had a few beers to end the day off. A excellent day enjoyed by all. Pictures are on the website

### SUMMER BALL

It was a full house at the summer ball with 130 club members and guests having a great evening at the Queens hotel. The evening started with club member Steve Mackey and his jazz band playing through an excellent dinner and went on well into the night with a great disco and plenty of frivolity. The raffle raised a fantastic £1000 for our charities, helped along by an impromptu auction of the top prize, which was a BCD. Other prizes included regulator sets, 5 day diving packages and a case of champagne. Our thanks to everyone who helped raise so much whether they donated prizes or bought tickets. Photos from the ball (and some are very good thanks to Katie – before she had a glass too many) have been published on the website.



### SOUTHSEA SHOW

The weather was good and the crowds flocked in to have a go at scuba diving in our try dive pool at the Southsea show. Lots of kids and adults took the plunge, most for the first time, in what was our busiest year so far. Around 160 people took the plunge altogether. We "teamed up" with the NAS who had a great display alongside us under the marquee, which generated loads of interest in marine archaeology. The after show party on the Sunday was also good fun. A few choice snap shots from the show can be found in the website gallery .... look out for the Mr Bean socks! Many many thanks to all the club members who helped out over the weekend. We could not have managed it without you and really appreciate it. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves as well.

## NORMANDY TRIP REPORT (Abridged English Version)



The week started off in Weymouth on the Friday night in the same style as every other dive holiday – in the local. After a 3am start on the Saturday (well for the skipper and crew) we dived the Strathalbyn off Cherbourg. What can I say – fantastic viz, loads of fish, and the stern and prop look awesome. We then motored into St Vaast for a meal and some of the local vin de table. Pretty bumpy weather didn't put a stop to two dives, one the LST523, still has Sherman tanks on it. While we waited for the second dive we anchored off Omaha Beach and watched 'Saving Private Ryan'. After the first two days we had glorious weather and plenty of fantastic dives including HMS Broadsword and the huge liner "Susy B" which most of us only managed to cover partially. Plenty more still to explore there. As usual each day ended with a night out in the local town, a lovely fishing village, and far too much wine. Ruth's excuse for not being able to walk in straight line was too much sun and the motion of the boat.... We also got to see a bit of France and went off to Utah Beach and Sainte Mere Eglise. Nice to get in a bit of culture and history. The last night in St Vaast was a little heavy on the old chardonnay.... ummm and in the haze there are recollections of the boys playing with the dog in the local Cyber Café which didn't have internet. All in all it was a really good week. Fantastic wrecks, loads of sea life, great visibility, and good food and places to drink on shore. This really is a holiday suitable for Advanced Open Water divers while still having enough scope for technical divers due to size and interest value of the wrecks in the 30m – 40m range. We hope to go again. **For a more full report and a bit of "franglais" thrown in take a look at the trip report section on the website [www.tritonscuba.co.uk/tripreports2006](http://www.tritonscuba.co.uk/tripreports2006)**

### TRITON DIVERS QUATAR DIVISION

Yvonne Fisher who has been a staunch member of the club for several years now has unfortunately left as she has started her new job teaching in Qatar. She's still settling in at the moment but has found a BSAC dive club (traitor!!) to join and is keeping busy with Dhow trips, Dune Buggy and swimming (did you say you were going out there to work?!) Yvonne has not gone forever, and is hoping to get back for some of the club functions during her 2 year contract.

### DAHAB TRIP 19 – 26 NOVEMBER

Loads of club members have expressed an interest in this trip and I have 16 definite names, however, at the moment I only have 10 deposits. We reckon the price will be around £450 (depending on what accommodation you want) as flights are excellent value at the moment. Not sure how long this will last, so if you want to go let me know as soon as possible.

## Dodgy Speedos Scandal



We always had a feeling that there was the potential amongst some of the staff to come out with some fashion horror stories. David was snapped in a pink and fluffy sweater some months ago you may remember and Katie had some strange etchings on her ankles. It now transpires that Ian has been caught in charge of an offensive pair of speedos! The red pants, allegedly sent to him many years ago by an admirer have the somewhat un-nerving tendency to go see-through when wet. We have resisted the temptation to find out more, but if you should see the offending article shown in the picture above please notify the RSPCA.

### SCUBAPRO PRESENTATION

Just to remind you Matt Armstrong from Scubapro has very kindly offered to come to our next club meeting on 7 September and give a presentation about Scubapro dive gear. He will have a full range of gear on display and will explain the ins and outs of everything Scubapro from wetsuits to computers.

### THANK YOU FROM JEAN

Those of you at the summer ball would have noticed that Jean was presented with some flowers, a birthday cake and a card for her birthday. She has asked me to say a big thank you to everyone. She was very touched by the gesture and it made a great night even better.

### HALLOWEEN

It is still 2 months away, but just to let you know, the Halloween function on Saturday 28 October is starting to fill up. It is going to be in our usual "haunt" (sorry about that!) the Coast bar of the Royal Beach hotel. There are only 80 spaces available. Tickets are going to be £10 for members and guest, payable in advance. £5 of the entry fees is going to be donated to charity. If you want to go, please get your names down as soon as possible.

### AND FINALLY .....

You have to admit, that no newsletter would be complete without ...

