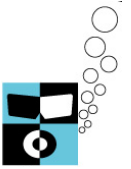




# The Urge to Submerge



The Newsletter of Triton Divers

January 2007

## NEXT CLUB MEETING 1 MARCH 2007

I was a bit late getting the newsletter out so the February club night has been and gone. Therefore, the next club meeting is on Thursday 1 March in the Coast bar of the Royal Beach hotel. After a couple of months of cow pie the menu for the evening is going to be that traditional British dish of curry. The tree hugger meal will be veggie curry. Please let us know if you are coming so that we can order food.

## PAYMENT FOR GUESTS AT CLUB MEETINGS

Unfortunately from the 1 February meeting we are going to have to ask guest of club members to pay £5 for their food at club nights. This will be payable on the night. We would rather not come around asking for money so if you could just let us have it without asking that would be appreciated. We hope that you still feel it is worthwhile bringing guests along to what is a pretty good evening out and meal for a fiver.

## SERVICING OF REGULATORS AND BCDs



There are still a couple of months to go before the season starts and now is a great time to get your dive gear checked over. If you do, make sure the person doing the checking knows what they are doing. We only have ASSET trained technicians do our work and as yours truly is also an ASSET technician we also give you honest advice about your servicing as well. Your regulators and BCDs are safety to life equipment and every manufacturer recommends annual servicing even if it is not used as O rings deteriorate and grease dries up. You know we love you all to bits and would hate anything to go wrong with your gear, so as a bit of an incentive we are offering a 10% discounts to club members on servicing charges during February and March. Don't forget that we offer a free checking service which take about 5 minutes for regs and BCDs when we can give you an idea of whether your gear needs a service and how much it might cost. So dive safe and play it safe – get your gear checked.

## ....ON THE SUBJECT OF SERVICING ...

There are still some spaces left on the equipment workshop on 25 February here at the dive centre. The workshop will last a day and will cover a whole range of topics from basic kit maintenance to checking and servicing. If you take your diving seriously and want to learn how to make sure you are safe every time you go diving, then this workshop is a great idea. Only £25 for the day.

## THE SPRING BALL – 24 MARCH

The spring ball at the Queens Hotel (Jana please take note – **THE QUEENS HOTEL**) is already fully booked and we are taking names of reserves as invariably the odd person will drop out for one reason and another. We are now in the position where we need to send out menu options so we also need payment and confirmation that you are coming. The cost of the function is £10 for club members and £30 for guests of club members. For this you get a live band, some great food, free wine, a disco and bar extension till 1 pm. Unfortunately we cant offer balloons or paper napkins – not that sort of place I'm afraid. To give you enough time to get your payments in we are going to work to a deadline of 24 February. If we have not received payment by this time we will assume you are no longer coming and will allocate your spaces to a reserve. Payment by cash or cheque only please.

## MOVE OVER BRAD PITT – HERE COMES MURRELL

Some of you may have seen a BBC programme about Buster Crabb on the beeb the other night. You know the guy ...good looking dashing hero type, tries to sort out the baddies, disappears into the murky depths never to be seen again. Loads of conspiracy theories and blatant lies from both sides. Well anyway, some of the filming was actually done in the Solent and not from a Royal Navy vessel but from our old mate Pete Street's boat Trojan. But who was the equally dashing divemaster dressed in black and acting his heart out in the corner ..... none other than our own Chris Murrell. It was not quite up to RADA standards darling and he has not yet asked whether he should get an agent, and I note he has not been nominated for an oscar .... But hey, its early days. So when you next watch it on the inevitable series of repeats – watch for that fleeting moment of fame. For those of you who might get him confused with Brad, here are a couple of photos for comparison – Uncanny likeness I think you'll agree



Brad rehearsing fight scenes for Troy



Chris pretending to fight



Brad Relaxing on boat



Chris Relaxing on set

## VHF RADIO COURSES



It's a while since we have run one of these courses. Many congratulations to Zoe Wright, Holly McMahon, Helena Roche, Paul Drew, Gareth Barneby and James Mountain on completing their VHF GMDSS Radio user courses with us. For any club members who have boats or are just interested in learning how to use radios, we will be running further VHF courses during the year. If you would like to join one of the courses let me know.

## THE HYSTERICAL DIVING SOCIETY



You may have heard of the Historical Diving Society – a strange bunch of individuals that keep old diving equipment and history alive. Occasionally they are seen at Horsea Island diving in old hard hat equipment. I have 6 old twin hose regulator sets as well as old ABLJs from about 25 years ago. One of the reg sets is working perfectly 4 are in need of a good sorting out but are working and one needs a bit more work. I am looking for anyone who fancies helping out in the repair of these old beasts – and then of course the opportunity to dive them. Easy breathing – if you have never tried a twin hose you haven't lived. So if you fancy being a part of this subsection of the club – to be known as the Hysterical Diving Society let me know.

## OTHER COURSE VACANCIES

There are still some spaces on the Search and Recovery course planned for 7/8 April. This 2 day course is great fun and you really get to learn something. There are also a few spaces on the Wreck Course in Portland over the weekend 31 March and 1 April. Don't forget these courses are discounted for club members so make the most of your membership.

## CLUB FORUM CHANGES

Those of you who have been on the forums will notice that they have been changed around a bit recently – hopefully they will make a bit more sense now as they are slightly more logical. If club members have any forums or sections they would like to be included on the forums just let me know.

## RUMOURS OF COURSE DIRECTOR MOVING OVER TO THE DARK SIDE! TOTALLY UNFOUNDED SAY TRITON SCUBA!

There have been some malicious rumours floating around (sorry for the pun) that a PADI Course Director has been undertaking a bit of BSAC training on the side. In fact the CD was seen at Horsea lake conducting SEEDS briefs and BAR checks (a bit like BWRAP to all PADI divers). Quite clearly this is not true.

## SUPPORTING ENHAM ALAMEIN



Some time ago you may remember that we provided try dives for some of the youngsters from Enham. Well we have gone one better. With the support of some funding from the European Social fund we have managed to take 10 learners through a Sports First aid programme. The course not only gave them an insight into first aid, but also focused on first aid for Sports, including diving. To top it all, the course has been mapped by the Qualification and Curriculum authority to a Level 2 NVQ – so all of the learners went away with 2 qualifications at the end of the programme. We will be doing a lot more work with Enham in the future on the diving and first aid side of life. To find out more about the organization go to: [www.enham.co.uk](http://www.enham.co.uk)

## SUE'S TRIP TO THAILAND

Sue Connerton is running a trip to Thailand on 6 – 9 June. The package is a 10 night stay in the Karon Beach resort in Phuket. The package includes 5 days of day-boat diving. On the return journey there is a one night stay in Bangkok, arriving back at Gatwick on 19 June. The cost of the trip which includes the 5 days of diving and bed and breakfast is going to around £980, or £730 for non-divers. For more information call Sue on 07702004521 or email [oldlil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oldlil@yahoo.co.uk)

## EGYPT TRIP IN JUNE

We were intending to plan a trip to Dahab at the beginning of June (cos you might have realized by now that we like it there). However, a quick check on flight ticket prices does not look that good. The tour operators are expecting a bit of a rush and seat allocations have all gone out. What seats are left are therefore very pricey. However, that does not mean we can't run a trip – if the operators have got it wrong they will be trying to get rid of seats nearer the date. So ....we are planning a trip to Dahab or Sharm the first week in June, but we are going to go for a last minute package to keep the cost down. No deposits required – just a bit of flexibility. We are hoping to get a deal for flights and accommodation in the £300 area or less. If you are interested, let me know and then we will get hold of you nearer the time as we get hold of bargains. If you don't make that trip there is always our annual pilgrimage in November

## LONG WEEKEND TO SPAIN 13 – 16 APRIL 2007



The first club trip overseas is planned to be a long weekend in Spain. The trip departs on 13 April and will return on 16 April, so potentially only 1 ½ days off work. Here's the plan:

We will be departing from Bournemouth Airport on the Friday at around 16.35. A bus will leave the dive centre at 12.30 for those that want it. We will fly to Gerona and then transfer by coach to L'Estartit. The journey from the airport takes about 45 minutes. On the Saturday and the Sunday we will be diving with Calypso diving in the Medes Island Marine reserve, which offers some excellent diving with plenty of marine life and geographical features. For "Med" diving it is really excellent. 4 dives have been booked. Accommodation will be in a local hotel on a B&B basis. It is clean and basic and close to the dive centre and right in the harbour. The return flight is on the Monday at a time that gives you the option of a bit of local shopping time and the opportunity to pick up a few bottles of Spanish vino should you wish! The cost of this full board package is £279 per person. The non-diver price is £229 and the price for anyone who wants single accommodation is £295. Note that there is every possibility that this price will be reduced as we are working on a worse case scenario for flight prices at the moment.



The diving in L'Estartit is excellent and it is a lively little town that has lots to offer. If you would like to come on the trip I need a deposit of £120 to cover the flights. If we can get cheaper flights the cost of the package will go down.

## LAST MONTHS CAPTION COMPETITION The Winner .....



"The final of the 2006 Paper Stone Scissors competition reaches an alcohol induced stalemate with neither contestant giving in"  
Pete Hulme

## DRYSUIT COURSES

The drysuit course at the beginning of February was over subscribed. There are still some spaces on the course at the end of Feb – beginning of March, so get your names down if you want to stay dry!

## BUOYANCY WORKSHOP

Still a few spaces – Sunday 4 March. £25 including entrance fees. So if you think your buoyancy sucks why not come along.

## MANDY FINALLY DOES A TRY DIVE

Mandy Pike, Jules' long suffering better half, has finally done a try dive. After a couple of years of trying to persuade her to take the plunge, she finally did it – with hubby Jules now that he is qualified. She reckons that after about another 10 try dives she might be ready for a course – you will have just about finished it by then Mandy!

## INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSES



We are planning 2 dates for IDCs this year:

- 14 – 23 April with an IE on 13 May at Gildenburgh. There are already quite a few takers for this course, so if you are interested let me know quickly
- 2 – 10 June with an IE on 16 June at Bristol. Again there are a few already on this so let me know.

We may well be running an extra course later on in the year. Oh and if anyone fancies doing an IDC overseas we are not actually running them ourselves but we can always give you a big long list of places that are!

## RYA POWERBOAT COURSES



For those of you who didn't know, Triton is also an RYA Powerboat Training Centre. The good news is that we now have a RIB and are starting to run courses again. We also have another Powerboat Instructor on the "team", John Marchant which gives us more time and flexibility to run the RYA level 1 and 2 programmes. If you are interested in learning how to drive powerboats then let me know and we will put your name down on the list. The cost is going to be very reasonable for club members. The new boat is shown in the picture. It is called Argo and she is capable of doing 40 knots – so why not come and give it a go – its great fun!