



# The Urge to Submerge



The Newsletter of Triton Divers

April 2006 Edition

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

4 MAY 2006

The March club night was a great success and we all enjoyed the short presentation by NAS. Many thanks to everyone who supported the raffle that night which for those of you who were there raised over £100 and was donated on this occasion to the NAS. The next club meeting is on 4 May in the Coast Bar of the Royal Beach Hotel. **Please let us know if you will be coming.**

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU CAN'T COME TO A CLUB MEETING!

At the April club meeting 17 members who had put their names down did not turn up. The problem with this was that we ordered food for them, which at £7.50 a throw means that we wasted £127.50. Personally I would rather pass it on to charity than chuck it away like this. If you do put your name down and you are not going to be able to attend, please please let me know, even on the day, so that we can reduce the number of meals we order. You wouldn't just not turn up to a friends dinner party without letting them know so please be fair and help us to not waste the money.

## DAHAB

As you know Dahab was bombed by terrorists recently. We were very concerned, as I know many of you were as well, for our friends who live and work out there. After several hours of trying I finally got through to Ed at Poseidon and he confirmed that everyone was ok, even though they were only 50m from the blast. He sent me an email, which I have copied below:

"Good Afternoon from Dahab. We thought it important to write to everyone to update on what has happened, where we are, some information for your customers, and a message of thanks. You are all aware of the bombs in Dahab now, and we need to stress that although close to the dive centre, we suffered no casualties or damage. The bombs were very small thankfully and the casualties were low. The media made a far bigger story out of it, and I am sure as the days go by the true view will unfold. The whole of town has united against this act, and there is no sympathy in anyone for the actions taken. The centre is acting as normal, and we have dives out today. We will not be deterred by the actions, and the security in place now is significantly heightened. All in town have agreed that to stop anything would be to give in, and as such all bookings, courses, and events will happen as planned. Please make customers aware of this, although we realise they must make their own minds up on how they feel about coming here. At the moment the UK Foreign Office hasn't issued warnings, but people need to review their embassy websites to keep updated. Thank you to all the concerned emails and calls received also. We appreciate them greatly at this really very difficult time Best regards Ed Poseidon Divers, Dahab"

The Club trip to Dahab is still going ahead on 21 May and we look forward to seeing our friends in Dahab soon.

## AQUALUNG REGULATOR

TRADE IN  
SAVE 35% ON A NEW  
REGULATOR



Some of you may remember that a couple of years ago, Aqualung had a regulator trade-in deal going on. Well they have started it again. The deal is that if you bring in a working regulator (not a bag of bits!) you will get 25% off any regulator in the Aqualung range. This includes the award winning Legend Regulators (speak to me for details coz I love em!) **BUT THAT IS NOT ALL** We always like to offer club members a better deal than anyone else so we are also slapping on a further 10% discount on this offer. So, club members get a **huge 35% off**. The offer lasts throughout May so if you want to grab your selves a new regulator now is a good time to do it.

## AMAZING VIZ REPORT

Visibility out of Weymouth and around Portland Bill has been amazing recently. Club member Dean has placed an excellent trip report on the forum, which includes a picture of divers on the "Sky" taken from his 5m stop position! If anyone is interested in a day trip to dive out of Weymouth let me know and we will run a few more.

## BANK GIRO AND WOOLWICH CLUB PAYMENTS

Any club members who pay their subscriptions through Bank Giro or Woolwich are asked to let us know. There are several payments made in this way and as the statement does not show names the payments cannot be linked with any particular club member.

## SUMMER BALL – 5 AUGUST



Bookings are coming in quickly for the summer ball on 5<sup>th</sup> August. There are now **only 30** spaces left, so if you would like to go get your name down as soon as possible. Just to remind you, the cost of the summer ball including your food, wine and entertainment in the Queen's Hotel is only £10 for members and £30 for guests.

## COURSE SUCCESS

Another reasonably busy month on the training front so well done to the following who have completed courses:

### Open Water Referral

George Miller, Cate Alexander, Christine Fox, Warran Buij

### Open Water

James Brockwell, David Rous, Kevin Payne, Mark Connorton, Isobel Gibbons, Oliver Wright, Alan Elsworth, Alistair MacLean, Linley Hastewell, Richard Bray, Kenneth Davids

### Advanced Open Water

Alison Rutherford

### Wreck Speciality

Ruth Sims

### Boat Speciality

Sarah Han de Beaux

### Rescue Diver

Ruth Sims, Steve Mackey

### Emergency First Response

Ruth Sims, Tony Jepp, Alex Willmott

### Medic First Aid

Ian Turnbull, Alistair Phillips-Hill, Kane Baillie, Michael Kirk, James Corriette, Alex Broadbent, David Ronchetti, Adam Threadingham, Nick Smith, Robert Davey, Simon Tidbury, Katia Palmisano, Amy Longworth, Gary McLelland, James Narine, Simon Delaney

## DIVES COMING UP

**14 May** – The Highland Brigade and drift. 28m An excellent wreck with loads of marine life. Departure time 10.00

### Bank Holiday Weekend

**27 May** – Prince Leopold 30m.

**28 May** – Mystery Dive 30m – Advanced Open Water

**29 May** – Selsey Coaster and Tank Landing Craft – suitable for OW divers.

## DARTMOUTH TRIP

The Dartmouth trip is now fully booked up. If you have put your name down and have still to pay can you please do so as quickly as possible as I have now booked all the accommodation. I will produce a letter letting you have details on timings and accommodation etc in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, if you have a vehicle available for the weekend and would be willing to share transport, please let me know. We will be taking one of the vans but that will only seat 6.

## NORMANDY TRIP

There are still a couple of spaces on the Normandy trip in August. If you would like to go get in contact with the dive centre. The cost of the trip is £500 which includes all diving, accommodation, breakfast and air fills. Minimum level is going to be AOW for this trip.

## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE

We mentioned digital photography courses last month and we are pleased to say that having attended formal training we are now able to offer you the latest PADI speciality course, Digital Photography. During the PADI Digital Underwater Photographer Speciality course, you learn to use the PADI SEA (Shoot, Examine and Adjust) method, which takes full advantage of digital technology. There are 2 levels to the course. Level 1 is a one day programme that consists of theory and practical skills. The practical diving skills can be conducted in a pool or the lake, which means that even when the visibility is not brilliant we can still get a lot from the programme. The Level 2 part of the programme is required for the speciality award, or as an adventure dive towards AOW and includes an open water skill development section and also looks at the processing of digital pictures, formatting, filing and several other skills.



Our Level 1 programme is going to be a one day course and will cost £95. Cameras are available for hire for the course at £40, or of course you may use your own if you have one. The Level 2 part of the course for those who want the speciality, is another day and will be an additional £95 if booked separately, or if you book both levels at the same time it is £175. If you would like to book onto a digital photography course, give me a call in the dive centre. The course price includes entrance fees for club members.

### DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Any instructors who would like to be able to teach digital photography courses should also contact me at the dive centre. If you have used a digital camera on 20 dives then you can apply directly for the speciality rating, however, having attended the course, both Brett and I would recommend it. The course covers a lot of detail, which is extremely useful if you want to run a proper programme. We are going to be running some instructor programmes in the next month or two.

## MY LONDON MARATHON RUN RAISES NEARLY £600



23 April was the London Marathon, which I managed to complete in just under 4hrs 30mins, which I have to say I was happy with considering the lack of training that I managed to get in before the race. I did "hit the wall" at about 20 miles and have to confess that the last 6 miles were the slowest I have ever staggered in my life. Crossing the line was a relief. Although I did get beaten by Scooby Doo and a couple of blokes dressed as nuns and Fred Flintstone, I did manage to fend off serious challenges from Bill and Ben (the flowerpot men) the Red Baron (complete with tri-plane) and a load of Wombles! Although it was a bit painful towards the end it was also a fantastic experience. Now I have done it 3 times however I reckon I have got it out of my system! Many thanks to everyone who sponsored me and if you have not yet done so you can still pop a crispy tenner into the dive centre if you are feeling charitable. Next up will be the Great South Run, which The Rt Hon Gambis is also doing. So if you feel like going for a jog and raising some money for charity at the same time, let me know and we can put a team in from the club.

## PHILIPPINES TRIP SPACES AVAILABLE



There are still spaces available for anyone wanting to join the trip to the Philippines in July. To remind you the price of the trip is £935, which is for a 2-week trip and includes the diving, flights transfers, and B&B accommodation. The cost of food and drink is very reasonable in the Philippines so given that some liveaboards in Egypt are running at this price for a week this package works out at extremely good value. Dates are 1 – 14 July and if you want to go I will need a deposit of £400

## DAHAB TRIP NOW ONLY £460 INCLUDING THE DIVING



For those of you who have booked onto the Dahab trip in May, I now need payment in full. You will be pleased to know that I have managed to upgrade the hotel and get a good price on flights so the trip price has gone down to £460 for those of you in shared rooms including the diving. Single supplement is £45 for those who asked for it. I am still taking bookings for the Dahab trip in May, however, the price of flights has gone up a bit so if you want to go it will cost an extra £60 to book at this late stage.

### FREE EQUIPMENT CHECK UP

As the season gets underway, if you have not already done so, why not bring your regulators in for a quick check up before you use them. It only takes a couple of minutes and is free to club members.

### ANOTHER NEW INSTRUCTOR JOINS TRITON

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Mel Seary, who has recently joined us as one of our part time instructors. Mel has done a lot of her training with Wittering Divers and overseas and is a full time teacher. She is currently shadowing courses so she knows the ropes and will be running her own courses soon.

### TOTAL RAISED FOR CHARITY IN 2006 TOPS £1500

Just to let you know, that thanks to your generosity the total amount of money raised this year for our 3 allocated charities has already reached £1500. Thank you.

### DIVING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME

Something for newly qualified divers, we have recently introduced a Diving Experience Programme. The aim of this programme is to gain additional experience once you have completed your open water training under the guidance of a qualified instructor. The other aim was to make it affordable. The programme is for newly qualified divers and will include dives in safe open water environments in inland sites such as Horsea and Wraysbury. The programme is available to club members and will cost £40 a session. This includes equipment hire and entry fees. The Diving Experience Programme dates will be published in the dive centre. So if you want to get more experience before you move on to your Advanced course, this is an ideal opportunity.