

TFI STRATFORD BSAC

motto: **'HE OR SHE WHO DARES FINS'**

<u>MAY 2015</u>

Any problems, suggestions or articles for TFI call Chris Prichard on 01386 462443

INSIDE THIS MONTH		Chairmans Report
Page 1 Page 2 Page 3	Chairman's Report Training Officer Quote of the Month D.O.'s Report Chairman's Report contd Les is 80 A plea from Jay Scott	I am delighted to say that we have two new Honorary Life Members of the club. Prich has been with us for 35 years, he has been on the committee in all the main roles and is still taking a very active role in training the new members. He has dived all over the world, his favourite place being Socorro in The Pacific Ocean off the west coast of Mexico.
Page 4 Page 6 Pages 7-8 Pages 9-11 Page 12 Page12-13 Page 13 Page 14 Page 15 Page 16-17 Page 18-21	Lyme Regis Report A message from Pete Talbot Wedding Photos Towing Guidelines Messages from Scotty River Boat Dinner Cruise Dates for your Diary Photo Competition The Bad Old Days Wet Suit for Sale Dive Trips Planned Oman Babbacombe Porthkerris	Les has been with the club nearly as long and done many trips to the Red Sea plus going with the 'Old Soaks' to Florida, Sardinia, Cyprus and other places in the Mediterranean. Two of our new members recently tied the knot, Tony Callow and Laura Holmes-Croote married in March and we wish them all the best for their future together. Their wedding photos are shown inside TFI. continued on page 3
Page 22 Page 21	For Sale / Wanted The Anorak Page	FROM THE TRAINING POOL Congratulations to Davis Gaden who has passed his Sports Diver Theory.
ATTACHED TO YOUR EMAIL is: • 2015 Dive Calendar		To all Ocean Divers, the Sports Diver lectures will start on Thursday 14th May at 8.45 after the Dive Leader lectures. Anyone who is almost finished Ocean Diver, who has passed the theory test, but hasn't done all the practical skills, can still start the lectures at this time. Hope you can all make it. Miles Howarth Training Officer

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I thought this Membership Secretary job was going to be easy and just like Santa's.......just one day in the year.....how naïve and stupid could I have been?" – Pete Talbot

-000-

DIVING OFFICER'S REPORT

Despite everything that circumstances can throw at us – crazy weather and a closed pool – the 2015 season for our club is underway.

Jon Arthur led a very successful first sea trip (to Teignmouth) in April with only one day blown out. We are pleased that Chris and Sophie joined us for their first ocean dives with our club – and that the group also enjoyed a leisurely trip down the Dart.

Lynne Bunker joined in Richard Well's first day-trip to Lyme in April – and got her first sea dive under her belt. Conditions - sea state and viz – were very good.

I want to thank Jon Artthur, Robert Muntz, John Armstrrong and Andy Bacon for conducting our latest very productive day-long training session at Stoney with trainees Paul Nash, Graham Greener, Dan Rowe and Mike Broomfield taking part.

It is also great to announce that Lynne Bunker is now an Assistant Instructor. It is not a simple task to keep training and diving going under the conditions we are now experiencing – including the forced retirement or temporary inactivity of vital senior divers – but we are managing to keep the momentum going. The aim as ever is safe, enjoyable diving here and abroad.

I personally would like to thank club members for all their support in the months since my incident at Chepstow. An official report about the event has been submitted by our Safety Committee to BSAC who are pleased with the thoroughness of the report. I have a long way to go but I do hope to dive again in the future – and I am delighted to still be here as Diving Officer of our club.

And on that note, please do not forget: permission must be sought for each and every dive and dive logs submitted to me after each dive.

And, come on – we still need divers to organise expeditions for us as the season gets into full swing.

Peter Neal D.O.

-000-

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Cont'd

We have a new champion Clay Pigeon Shooter. Ellen Noakes amazed herself and put many members to shame by winning the tankard having never fired a shot before. It was noted that she beat all of the people who took their own guns! Peter Virgo got the wooden spoon but Wellsy is going to carve his name on it so I'm just wondering whether all the missed shots were deliberate. Richard Talbot did a great job organising the event, thanks go to him for his hard work.

We have been promised the new pool will be open in early July so not much longer, we are still having social events on Thursdays so there is always something to come to the club for.

We have put together towing guidelines and these are included in TFI. Please read these if they affect you and ensure that you are licensed and insured to tow the boats.

Hilary Wilson

Photos from the night to celebrate Les's 80th Birthday

Note the cake made by (I think) Jeannie Parnham

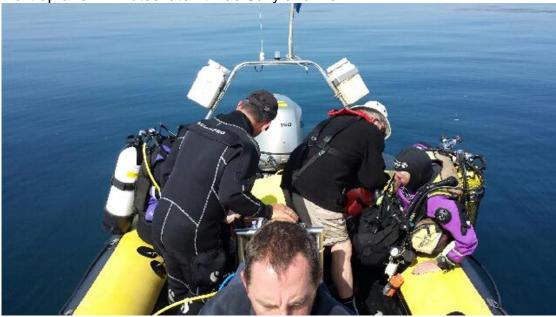




-000-

Lyme Regis Wednesday 15 April

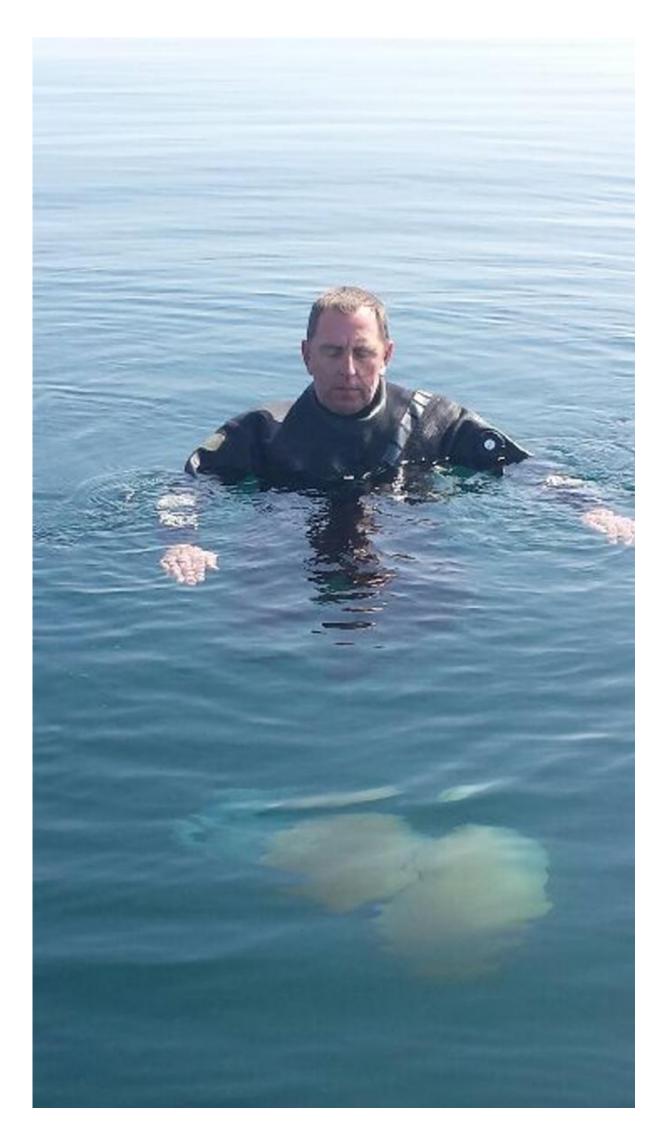
We set off from Stratford and surrounding villages around 0700 and it was to be my first British Sea Dive. It was a good journey down, and the weather was beautiful. Sunny skies incredibly calm seas and the hottest day in April. The boat arrived shortly after, and everyone helped to launch it. Getting the trailer back out of the water proved a little too hard for Sally and I as it had got stuck in a couple of holes, er... lads what were you all doing on the boat already? It was not long before we were underway, and a short while later, Jay was busy locating the Baygittano. After managing to get a direct hit with the shot, the first pair of divers were on their way. (Brett and Andy B)



Next up a few minutes later it was Sally and me.

The first challenge was to get to the shot line, which meant no messing, get swimming, and after a brief recovery time, down we went. There was quite a current. From around 10m we could see the bottom, and my first view of the 'Baggy'. Wow she did look pretty impressive, and it was not long after that Sally and I were having a good look around and becoming good at spotting conger eels hiding in the boilers and various floor spaces, and a variety of crustaceans! There were shoals of fish swimming around too! It did not seem very long before we were ascending, and whilst carrying out our safety stop, we were graced by the presence of a large jellyfish, which kept us mesmerised for a bit. There were lots of these around. Peter N and Jay were busy keeping an eye out for us all returning.

Richard W and Peter T was the other buddy pair, and once they were safely back on board it was time for lunch! Well done to Peter T for managing to remain with his buddy. Richard – what happened to your weight belt??!! For those who do not know, please ask him!



We sat outside and enjoyed the sunshine and lunch, and then it was time to go for our second dive. Peter T being his usual humorous self, decided that Sally and I were taking too long to get our kit sorted...only to be reminded later that he needed to get into his drysuit properly! On our second visit to the 'Baggy', Sally and I became acquainted with some nice large lobsters that had got caught up in fishing line, and had to be cut free, and we had a close look at other crustaceans. Other divers found some flat fish, and a couple of old spent ammunition shells.

After we had got the boat out, cleaned and sorted and everyone was reunited with their kit we stopped off at the Olde Pop Inn for well-earned refreshments. We arrived back in the area about 2200, feeling rather tired!!

A huge thanks to Richard and Sally for arranging this, and thanks to Sally for being so supportive and sharing her extensive knowledge. I had a fabulous day, as I am sure everyone else did too. I could not have asked for anything better for a first British Sea Dive.

Lynne McCarthy

-000-

-000-

A PLEA FROM JAY SCOTT

"Can anyone wishing to borrow pool diving equipment on a Thursday inform me before the Thursday by text or e-mail please. Then I should have your kit ready for you when you arrive.

Many thanks." Scotty

-000-

Membership Directory

Can ALL members PLEASE log into the

directory https://members.stratforddivers.co.uk

and update/amend/enter your details, or as much as it will allow.

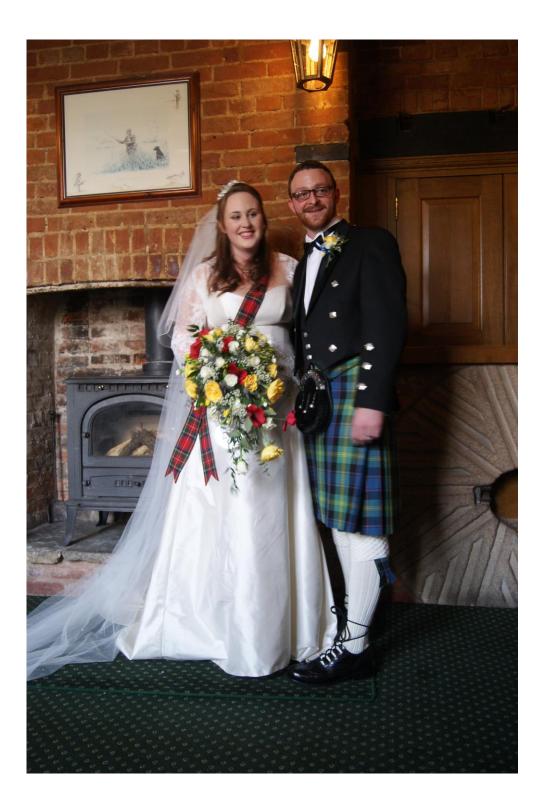
Please log in to the directory, then at the top right, click on 'your

name/username and the drop down 'My Profile', click on this and go to 'Edit' (which is in the middle of the screen) and then simply enter as many details as you can/are allowed on the relevant pages......when you finish click SAVE at the bottom and then log out.

N.B. if you need/want to reset a password, it will automatically be emailed to you and you only have 10 minutes to use it, when it arrives but this should also be instant (ish).

Pete Talbot Membership Secretary

The promised photos of Laura and Tony





-000-

TRY A DIVES

SPECIAL RATES FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Speak to Angie Deaves to arrange one.

INFORMATION REGARDING TOWING THE BOATS

After our committee meeting, I now have a further update on the information with regard to the law and towing the club boats.

There are 2 issues which need addressing. The first one is the law, brought in on 1st January 1997, which restricts the weight of vehicle that a driver can tow.

On the D V L A website, anyone who has passed their test after 1st Jan, 1997 can only tow a trailer which weighs over 750kg as long as the combined weight of the vehicle and the trailer is less than 3500 Kg. Above that weight the driver needs to take an extra test.

Both Hornet and Portia have been weighed in their travelling state, without personal kit but with anchors and possibly some fuel in the tanks. HORNET WEIGHED 1650KG. PORTIA WEIGHED 1600 KG.

The D V L A rules on the website at the moment state that the laden weight of the trailer MUST NOT exceed the un-laden weight of the towing vehicle. This means that Hornet @ 1650 Kg plus a towing vehicle @ 1650 Kg have a combined weight of 3300 Kg. If Hornet then has the fuel tank filled this can add another 50 - 100 Kg to the weight, making Hornet weigh 1700 - 1750 Kg. and then the towing vehicle must be the equivalent weight. Therefore the combined weight now becomes 3400Kg to 3500Kg. As soon as a passenger and any kit is put in the car, the combined weight will exceed the 3500Kg limit and the driver is then towing without a licence and without insurance.

On the chassis of the trailer is a plate which specifies the highest weight that the trailer can legally carry. This is called the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). Our trailers both have their appropriate GVW set at 2200 Kg. Although Hornet weighs 1650 Kg and Portia weighs 1600Kg, we need to be able to put extra weight in them, for instance divers kit, fuel and, when towed out of the sea, gallons of water. Because of these extras, both trailers have been plated at 2200 Kg. giving us a leeway of 550 – 600 Kg of equipment.

If we look at BSAC recommendations with regard to this law, they state that for anyone who passed their test after 1st Jan 1997, the combined Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) of the car plus the GVW of the trailer must not exceed 3500 Kg. The plated weight of both trailers is 2200Kg and, going by this rule, there is obviously only 1300Kg left for a vehicle.

Whichever way we look at this law, anyone who took their test after 1st Jan 1997 will need to take a further test.

Your B licence has a provisional entitlement to tow trailers over this weight limit as long as the driver displays L plates and is accompanied by a qualified driver who has held the equivalent licence for at least 3 years. I have checked this with the D V L A and also Hughes Driver Training who specialise in all trailer and lorry training. The advice from the D V L A was very unclear but the advice from Hughes Driver Training was very specific. They say that the qualified driver must have actually PASSED the appropriate test so, although most of us in the club are entitled to tow the trailer, we are not qualified to be the accompanying driver. We are trying to get written confirmation as to the rule but, in the meantime, to ensure we comply with the law, we are going with the advice that you must have passed the test to be the accompanying driver.

The test isn't very expensive and most drivers probably wouldn't need many lessons so the qualification should be quite easy to get. **The second issue is the size of car that can tow the trailers**.

On the chassis of the trailer is a plate which specifies the highest weight that the trailer can legally carry. This is called the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). Our trailers both have their appropriate GVW set at 2200 Kg. This is the total weight that the trailer can carry and must not be exceeded. Although Hornet weighs 1650 Kg and Portia weighs 1600Kg, we need to be able to put extra weight in them, for instance divers kit, fuel and, when towed out of the sea, gallons of water. Because of these extras, both trailers have been plated at 2200 Kg. giving us a leeway of 550 – 600 Kg of equipment.

At the moment the D V L A has a rule that the GVW of the trailer must not exceed the un-laden weight of the towing vehicle. Therefore all towing vehicles MUST be a minimum of 2200 Kg un-laden weight. However, the guidance from BSAC is that the D V L A have changed the rule but not yet updated it on the website. They now say that we all have to check with our vehicle handbook to see what our own car can tow. This has actually made it more confusing because every handbook I have looked at gives a maximum towing weight but doesn't specify if that is actual weight or GVW. The problem here is that when the boat is laden, we have absolutely no idea what the actual weight is and need to make an allowance for the equipment

If we look at the kit likely to be carried in the boat, our 12 litre cylinders weigh 15 Kg each and stab jackets normally weigh around 5 - 6 Kg each. If we look at the likely weight in the boat of the kit for 6 divers, 3 twinsets and 3 single cylinders the dry weight would be 135 Kg of cylinders, 35 Kg of stab jackets, 6 weight belts around 60 Kg, demand valves, fins, reels, torches all add up. There is also the weight of water held in the fabric of the kit but I have no idea how much that would weigh. From this, we can assume that towing the boat out of the water after a dive with the kit still on board would add at least 250 Kg plus water.

The conclusion we have come to is that while the D V L A still has the rule on the website, we need to take that into account as well as the information in our car handbooks.

For example although Jay has the correct licence to tow, his car has an unladen weight of 2100 Kg and is therefore not able to tow either trailer.

Emma, who passed her test after Jan 1997, must take the trailer test and have a vehicle weighing over 2200 Kg un-laden and comply with the recommendations in her handbook before she can tow.

Geoff's car has an un-laden weight of 2200 Kg, a towing capacity of 1800 Kg and a combined allowable weight of 4500Kg. He can tow the boat as long as there is only 150 Kg of extra kit in the boat.

Richard's car with an un-laden weight of 3010Kg and a towing capacity of 2800Kg is well within limits.

When the D V L A update their website, we will have a better idea of the rules but, until then, these are the protocols we must adhere to.

All drivers have an obligation to ensure that they are legal to tow the boats. The police are tightening up on the rules and checking more trailers. I spoke to Rupert Perry who has recently used a works van to collect a trailer from Indespension. Although the trailer was empty and probably weighed around 400 - 500 Kg, he was pulled in by the police because the plated weight of the trailer was higher than the un-laden weight of the van and meant that it was illegal to tow behind the van he was using. He received a severe reprimand and was lucky to get away without prosecution.

Our company lorries are being weight checked more often than they used to be, the police have the right to pull you over, and if that happens to our boats and you are found to be overweight, you would be stopped from travelling and we would have to arrange collection, plus there would be fines and penalty points for the driver.

Can you please check your handbooks and make sure you are able to tow, if you have any doubts, please talk to us to try to resolve any problems. Unfortunately the onus is on each member to do this, if you tow and the law is broken you are at fault and risk both your licence and invalidating your insurance and that of the club boat and trailer, and you may also be held responsible for any loss the club suffers.

Hilary Wilson

16th April 2015

This directive has been agreed by the committee. We will be discussing it again at the next meeting but in the meantime, this is the information you need to adhere to.

Also, for your information, most insurance companies require any alterations to your vehicle to be notified to them. This includes the addition of a tow-bar. It normally doesn't alter the cost of your insurance but you will need to ensure you give them notice if your tow-bar wasn't factory fitted.

-000-

MORE MESSAGES FROM SCOTTY

SHELL FISH

I've just read the web site from 'Devon and Severn IFCA' which is now stating that you are required to have a license to collect shellfish in certain areas and you are restricted to what you can take away.

I have been told by someone that you can launch from Lyme Regis and collect shellfish from Devon i.e. West Bay area But everyone needs to read this website.

AIR FILLS

I still have the club's compressor so if any club member requires a fill can they let me know please - £3-50 per cylinder...07976 283702

EXCELLENT DIVE SHOP

Today on the way back from Salcombe I had to call in to **JR Services** to drop the O2 valve off instead of posting it.

It turns out that he (John) is only 3.5 miles from J28 on the M5 and has an incredible dive shop, and services every type of regulator possible, he does work for the military and police too. He has a very good knowledge of diving the south coast as well as hiring out diving equipment or filling cylinders should you have forgotten to do this on your way to a dive site.

He is open late on a Friday evening should you require anything.

"Approved cylinder testing IDEST 3U - diving equipment servicing Inc Aga, Kirby.02 cleaning - suit repairs - air purity tests, Watch and dive computer battery changes, 02 therapy unit and BA servicing Air to 300 bar - Nitrox Dive shop and equipment sales Scuba pro - Aqualung - Mares - Apeks - Cressi - Oceanic -Poseidon -Suunto

Always best to phone first if travelling a long distance

01884 266400 07816 898083

Regards Jay

-000-

River Boat Dinner Cruise

On Thursday the 7th May, I arrived on foot at the Riverside and observed a restaurant on the water with tables and lights showing through the windows with a welcome crew. I did for a moment wonder if I was too late as Lynne informed me that all club members were present and on time, a rare occasion indeed. (Well done to all) We all set about boarding The Countess Boat. Andy Bacon took his tablets as there were a few ripples on the river, and Mark Jeffrey panicked as he thought he had forgotten his diving suit again, but was calmly reassured that it was just a dinner trip. Once aboard and seated we

was given the necessary safety talk, however after looking very hard I still could not locate the emergency dropdown masks. Sally's red wine was ordered, and then we were all allowed to order our drinks. I quite by accident I suppose sat opposite Lynne. Jay, Paul also shared the same table with Daniel, Ellen, Sally, and Peter Neal on the opposite table. For Daniel's sake I did not want to bring up the shot gun performances at our last club social event, however Paul still wore those sniper type sharp shooter glasses. We set sail after being lowered down from and water lock, shortly after the food orders were taken, this was a three course meal. A pleasant steady cruise whilst enjoying our Starters and Main Course up river to Luddington, were we disembarked for a short walk and some fresh air before returning to the boat for Puds on the way back. It was a very relaxing meal and the food, especially the fresh Salmon was excellent. It was good to see everybody, especially Peter Neal enjoying themselves and having a good laugh with a bit of friendly banter. I feel like me, most had a very pleasant evening and would like to thank Lynne for her time and effort in organising this event, well done Lynne.

Hoppo.

-000-

<u>Thanks to Emma Hardman (nee Duke) for this summary of</u> <u>future events</u>

STRATFORD BSAC – SAVE THE 2015 DATES!

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
Thursday 26 th February	Dry Dive – London Midland Dive Chamber	Geoff
Thursday 5 th March	Photography competition	Hilary/Sally
Saturday 21 st March	Clay Pigeon Shoot	Richard Talbot
Thursday 26 th March	Les' 80 th Birthday – Football Club	Emma
Saturday 18 th April	Meal out – venue TBC	Emma
Thursday 23 rd April	Radio Introductory Talk & Jacoues Cousteau Film Night – Football Club	Emma
Friday 12 th – Saturday 13 th June	Stratford Beer Festival	Emma
Saturday 4 th July	Summer BBQ at River Festival	Emma
Saturday 17 th October	Stratford Races	Emma
5 th December TBC	Christmas Party	Emma

More details to follow soon...

Annual Photo Competition This is the overall winner as chosen by club members. It was taken by Richard Wells



The winners of various categories as chosen by the judges can be found on the Club Website at <u>http://wp.me/p5r4LV-bW</u>. Many thanks to Sally, Hilary and the contributors for making another wonderful evening.



For those of you that know Clive "Piggy" Porter, a former member Andy Gravenor sent to me the following:-

"I was reading a history book today and came across clear evidence of Piggy's aristocratic past.....or is it just my eyes deceiving me....?"

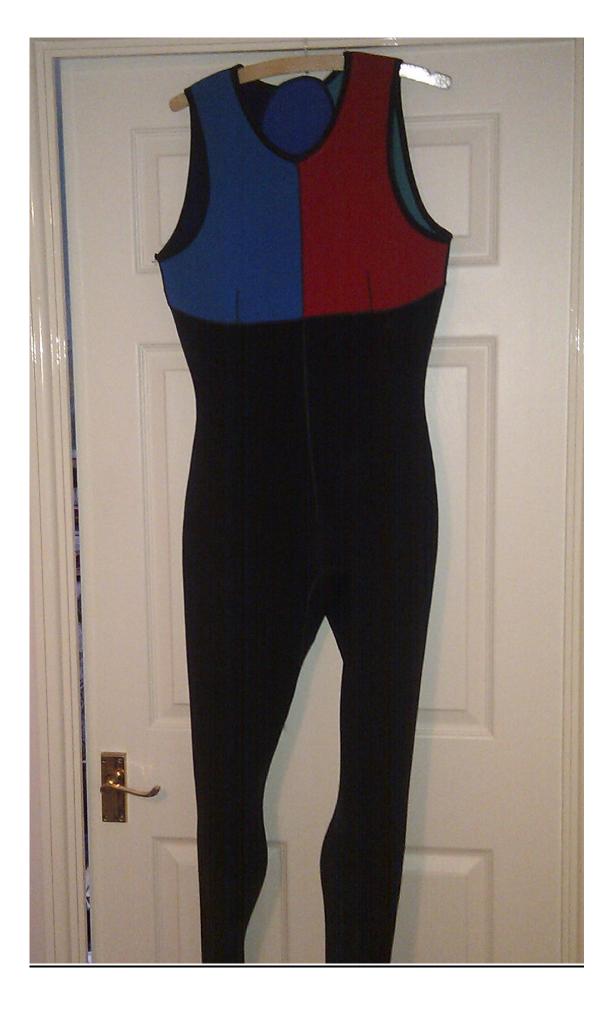


WET SUIT FOR SALE

A lady friend of mine has a wet suit for sale, if you are interested give me a call – Prich. The details are:-

It is a 4mm suit in two parts and is about a size 12 and fits someone about 5ft 8ins.





DIVE TRIPS

<u>OMAN</u>

I am already thinking about holidays in 2016 and, as some of you already know, I would like to do a liveaboard trip to Oman in early 2016. We went on this trip 2 years ago and I loved it, there is only one boat there so we were the only divers and it is humpback whale migration time so we heard whales almost every dive, saw them on the surface and dived with them at the end of the week. There was masses of fish life with plenty of variety of rays, no sharks that we saw, and a couple of wrecks and it was the easiest week's diving I have ever done.

I have made preliminary enquiries and the total cost is likely to be somewhere between £1800 and £2000 per person. We get a 6% discount as a BSAC club. I know Sally will be a definite "yes" but could the rest of you give me an idea if you are interested so that I know which way to take this. We can either have a few of us on the boat or we can take over the whole boat with up to 24 divers.

I know it's a lot more than the Red Sea but it is nice to have a change once in a while.

Regards, Hilary

Jeannie's Jaunts Babbacombe - Shore Diving 23rd-25th May 2015



Come and brush up or start your photography multicoloured critters plus pipefish, crabs, lobster and many more Photo competition in June with prizes!! - if we get enough photos Or just come along to 'get wet'

Shore diving for all divers - especially new divers

No hassel Accommodation - caravans/apartments at Park Dean

- ✓ sort yourselves for Friday evening meal (restaurant at Park Dean)
- ✓ eat out together Saturday/Sunday night (tba)
- ✓ self catering for breakfast (to be arranged in your caravan)
- ✓ or café at Babbacombe beach for breakfast/lunch
- ✓ caravans booked for Fri, Sat and Sun night

I shall book by the end of February, so we are all together. Caravans/apartments to sleep 6/8 each, (partners & children welcome)

To book your space please give me a deposit of £55 ASAP (which should cover most of the cost of the caravan) The full cost for this trip will be the caravan cost which is £55/60 pp depending on numbers and availability of caravans/apartments + food+ carparking There is no cost for diving as it is shore diving

Jeannie Parnham 07946 320016

Or e-mail: <u>amazingjeannie@yahoo.co.uk</u>

Here are some highlights from earlier years:-





I'm Kelpie cuttlefish

I'm amazing – evolution changed me. I was a happy mollusc species floating safely and gently through the oceans covered in a heavily armoured shell – when wow!! a genetic fluctuation turned me inside out and now I have a puny internal skeleton and my body has changed into this succulent, squidgy, prepacked ready meal full of protein. What a culture shock! I ask you, what is a girl to do? This turn of events required a pretty clever solution. I had to change to be a master of disguise.

Me and the girls (and boys) and some octopus and squid can turn ourselves from invisible to totally



obvious and back in about 2 seconds and on top of that can blend seamlessly into any natural background and have a stab at artificial ones too.

How do I do this? Well I have these sacs of real pretty colours of red, yellow and brown pigment deposited in the muscles around my skin's circumference (called chromatophores) and these are controlled by the motor centres in my brain. So I see a predator or problem and wham! I change to green or yellow or grey or whatever I fancy. I also have some pretty called sophisticated reflecting plates leucophores and iridophores, which reflect light across a wide range of wavelengths to create iridescent reflections ranging from white to deep purple and green. That's really scary for those man (sorry cuttlefish) eating monsters.

On top of all this I can also change the texture of my skin. With my bundles of muscles, gently rippling I change from smooth all the way through to spiky, to fit in with my surroundings, sand, weed, rocks or plain sea sailing.



I also communicate with my mates; I have about 40 different signals which I send out as body patterns. Some more seductive than others



Don't you agree I am one of the most remarkable species in the sea? You can find out more about me from typing into your search engine, 'cuttlefish' or going to any of the following

www.marinebio.org/cuttlefish

<u>www.newscientist.com/cuttlefish</u>

www.nationalgeographic.com/cuttlefi





Come and photograph me and watch me make loooove!!!

Babbacombe 23rd/25th May 2015

Scintillating company Great food

Cosy caravans Brilliant viz??!!?? All levels

Shore diving

For more info and to book your caravan place Call Jeannie on 07946 320016 or e-mail amazingjeannie@yahoo.co.uk And give me a £55 deposit asap to cover the caravan cost

-000-

PORTHKERRIS

Mark Jeffrey is running a weekend diving at Porthkerris on 14th -16th August 2015. We will be staying in a Log cabin and diving from hard boats. More details to follow. Mark's phone numbers are : 01386 701 053 or 07850 700231

FOR SALE

Oceanic dry suit for sale. Ideal for any new diver wanting to get started at a reasonable price of £60. Size- fits 5'10" tall 12 -14 stone man. Call Ben Trowman on 01386 859475

I have a Custom Diver TDB dual bladder wing with tec harness in excellent condition for sale. As I have 5 BCD's / wings you'll appreciate that it has not had much wear. New price would be £590 and I'm asking £300. Snap it up now before I put it on e-bay. Peter Neal Wet Suit – see pictures in TFI Prich 01386 462443

<u>WANTED</u>

Badminton Players for the Wilmcote/Diving Club Badminton Group. Tuesday evenings at 9.00 -10.00 Stratford Leisure Centre. Not serious, just a good friendly knock around of pairs and singles. See Geoff Russell (01789 552614. 07836 503082)

MOVING HEAVY LOADS?

John Simpson is willing to use his 4 Wheel Dive and Trailer to help any Members who need to move heavy loads. Cll John on 07976 849670

<u>THE</u> ANORAK PAGE

Stratford BSAC 0730 Committee 2014

Chairman: Hilary Wilson 07779 287558 Diving Officer: Peter Neal 07967 656462 Training Officer: Miles Howarth 07779 287558 Secretary: Lynne McCarthy 07775 940000 Equipment Officer: Jay Scott 07976 283702 Treasurer: Geoff Russell (01789 552614) Membership Secretary Pete Talbot 07958 447544 Recruitment: Angie Deaves 07792 775971 Events: Emma Hardman 07740 355836

SUGGESTIONS OR PROBLEMS? THEN CALL ONE OF US

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2013

To the Stratford Branch, all Members pay an annual subscription of £118 towards costs of the Branch. To BSAC, Members pay an annual subscription of £56.50 that covers BSAC costs, their monthly 'Scuba' magazine and their third party insurance. Both of the above are due on the 1st April each year. New members are required to pay a full annual subscription for both of the above when they join. In their second year they pay pro-rata to bring them to the next 1st April. Hire of kit for a new trainee is £60 for a period of for four months. Thereafter it is £30 per month. **Pool Sessions** - £3 for all Members Try a Dive £15 a session. £10 of this is refundable when you join the club. Training Books vary but typically the cost for an Ocean Diver is £45. The Club has 2 boats (RIB's) and the Committee believes that Members should contribute towards the cost of running these boats in proportion to how often they dive from them. This is paid for by a compulsory Annual Boat Levy of £30 payable along with your Annual Subscription by all Members in their second year onwards If you do minimal diving from the Club boats during the year you will receive a full or part refund of your Boat Levy. Non members diving from Club RIBs will pay £10 per dive.

Members towing RIB's get a minimum of 56 pence per mile

CLUB DIVING STANDARDS

All Members are expected to dive in accordance with the guidelines of the BSAC as published from time to time.

No dives should be organised without the prior approval of the Diving Officer who will provide you with a Diving Log which is to be completed with details of the dive and returned to him.

On the reverse side of the Diving Log is a list of the main BSAC guidelines that the Committee wishes to emphasise at this time.

You are reminded that the depth limits for qualified divers is as follows:

Ocean Divers – 20 metres

Sports Divers – 35 metres

All other qualified divers – 50 metres

Members who ignore any of these guidelines do so entirely at their own risk.

You are also reminded of the following:

- Members are strongly recommended to use Delayed Surface Marker Buoys which can be filled by means other than purged air from a mouthpiece.
- Sports Divers and above are recommended to carry their own independent source of back-up air in a second cylinder (twin or pony)

These extracts are not exhaustive and so if you have any queries you should clear these with the Diving Officer before diving.

The Diving Officer for 2015 is Peter Neal and his contact number is shown above.