



# TFI STRATFORD BSAC

*motto:*

'HE OR SHE WHO DARES FIN'S'

## AUGUST 2016

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

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### And attached to your email are:

The 2016 Dive Calendar

New BSAC Guidelines on Rescue Breaths

### Chairman's Report

The river festival went well with the weather being kind to us and a great display on the stand. Thank you to all those who helped set up and man the stand and especially to Lynne for organising it.

Our storage facilities are improving!! Jay has installed lights in the Hobbit Hole at the Football Club - a vast improvement - and it will be much easier to find paperwork, books etc. Don't forget that we have an extensive library stored there, courtesy of Prich, for anyone to borrow dive books. We also have Geoff's charts of the British Isles.

I am also in the process of having a shed put up at Warwick Buildings premises at Long Itchington to store the marquee, jerry cans and other large equipment owned by the club. We want to have all the larger equipment stored together for convenience and, as it is only used infrequently, it shouldn't be too much of a problem to collect from the yard.

Hilary

### **FROM THE TRAINING POOL**

Congratulations to:

Jamie Wolstencroft and Glen Cadle who have qualified as Ocean Divers.

Glen, Simon Steed and Kelly Greener have passed their Sports Diver Theory.

Kelly is now qualified as a Sports Diver.

And Jamie has made his first salt water dive off the UK coast.

Well done to all of you.

Peter Neal  
Training Officer

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

At Hope Cove during the mini heatwave we have recently enjoyed:-

“I hope nobody wants to go diving today, it’s too hot”  
Geoff Russell

### **DIVING OFFICER'S REPORT**

So far this year the diving has been a bit of a mixed bag with the unpredictable weather - so what's new? - but I'm pleased to say that the trips that have gone ahead have all worked out well with no incidents occurring. With more RIB trips planned and foreign holidays still to come, let's hope the same continues.  
Happy and safe diving,  
Miles Howarth

-oOo-

### **MURDER MYSTERY EVENING**

Just a reminder that Murder Mystery tickets are now on sale for 8th October, £25 each to include food and great entertainment. Bring your own drink.  
Hilary

-oOo-

### **Report on trip to Hope Cove/Salcombe July 2016**

What a great week, the weather was very kind to us. Little wind and wall to wall sunshine with underwater visibility between 10 and 15m. As we have done for many years we stayed at Alston Farm Caravan and Campsite, which is great because Phil the owner dedicates an area for us where we are allowed to BBQ and have camp fires. As there weren't too many of us we were also able to enjoy the luxury of Russell Thompson's new motor yacht, in between dives and in the evenings, so there may not have been as much diving as was possible but I'm assured everyone had a great holiday. Present diving were Russ and James Thompson, Brett and Sam Ashford, Lynne B, Jay and myself. Non diving were Steve Wreford, Andy Bacon, Les and Jules. Launching out of the Lincombe Marina where we now keep the RIB was really easy and can be done in almost any tide condition, We had great dives on the Persia, Maine, and tried out dives we have not done before or some time. Really good diving on the East Rutts pinnacle, shoals of sea bass and free swimming congers. The Eddystone Lighthouse and the Soudan which is just outside Salcombe estuary mouth in 20 m and proved to be a delight with 6 congers in her boilers sharing with 2 massive lobsters. Dive at low to low + 1 hour.



Was hungry whilst diving the Eddystone so had them send supplies !!  
(Picture and caption from Russell Thompson.)

The week was also made different and interesting by assisting Sam with his Zoology dissertation on comparing marine animals present on wrecks compared with natural reefs at 20m., and Lynne got some good boat handling experience under her belt as a start to being more familiar with RIB handling.

Non diving activities included walking, golf, cruising to Dartmouth, and around to Hope Cove for beach BBQ. Evening trips by boat to quiz night at Newton Ferrers and up to Kingsbridge for evening meal.

It was a shame more members hadn't signed up for the week, but then it did conflict with Pembroke were I understand everyone had a good time. Must co-ordinate diary better next year.

Geoff Russell

-oOo-

## **TRY A DIVES**

## **SPECIAL RATES FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

**Speak to Lynne Bunker to arrange one.**

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## **NOTHING TO DO WITH DIVING UNLESS YOU ARE DECANTING FUEL**

(But Pete Talbot thought you might like to test yourself against his 7 year old)

You have 2 watering cans, 7ltr and 4ltr.  
You must water the monkey tree with 7ltr of water and the runner beans  
with 4 litres of water but the rhubarb needs exactly 1 Litre of  
water.....how do you do this and there are no marks on the cans!

Peter Talbot

-oOo-

## **ISLES OF SCILLY 2016**

*We've been diving off St Agnes in the Isles of Scilly for years and we returned in July 2016 for 10 days full of hope and enthusiasm.*

### **THE DIVERS**

*The party contained many Scilly old hands in Richard Wells, Stan Russell, Jon Arthur, Geoff Russell, Andy Bacon, Chris Prichard, Hilary Wilson, Miles Howarth, Peter Virgo, Kzrystoph Piecha and Mark Jeffries. The only Scilly Virgin was Ellen Noakes.*

### **THE JOURNEY**

As usual, drive to Penzance collecting the RIBs en route. From here some take the ferry and others ride in the RIBs. The sea was fairly flat and so the journey over was comfortable and uneventful.

### **TROYTOWN CAMPSITE**

Not much has changed at our regular campsite. We were filling our cylinders in the farm building and KP or Tim the site owner would ferry them to the quay on the back of the tractor. So, once again, there was no having to carry them down the beach to load the boat

It was noted with some glee that you now need a different token in order to operate the showers and so those stolen and stored up by Brett Ashford will never be of any use to him even if he does bother to break off from his new career as a worker and come with us in the future.



### WEATHER

*The weather for this trip was far from perfect and the seas were not very flat. Below is the view at sunset from our tents across the sound to the Isle of Annett and was seen only on the occasional evening.*



### DIVING

*We enjoyed diving the usual sites of The Italia, The Plympton/ Hathor, The Firebrand and Trenemene. In addition we again obtained a licence from English Heritage to dive the wreck of HMS Colossus which sank in 1798.. This is a shallow site which is still being excavated and features with cannons, remains of muskets and timbers held together by giant copper pins. New dive sites were The King Cadwallon and (Not) The Tobasco*

### CATERING

*Stan insisted on catering for all of us in his usual magnificent style and although these pictures were taken by Jon Hardman on an earlier trip they are typical of this trip.*



### RETURN JOURNEY

*I had to return early by train from Penzance and after buying a ticket at the rail station at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, I went to the nearest hotel to get a bed for the night, "no vacancies but there are two good B&B around the corner". No vacancies at the first and at the second only an expensive family room which they showed no sense of offering at a reduced price even at 8.00p.m.*

*The next two B&B had no vacancies and so the Cliff Hotel was my next option. As I entered it looked old and tired and in the need of a serious renovation and redecoration. There were faded old pictures on the wall and the one behind the desk*



was one of Elizabeth II sitting astride her horse outside Buckingham Palace but she was aged about 25 i.e. it's 65 years old. I was greeted by a little wild eyed man with scruffy hair and beard. He went behind his desk and tapped away on a keyboard which was nearly as old as the picture. The computer was surrounded by piles of papers, keys, and a whole range of detritus. He offered room 9 to me and I was happy to take it. He disappeared into a door behind him and there was a jangling of keys and he returned empty handed. He searched the top of the desk pushing keys and papers this way and that searching unsuccessfully for a key. He gives up and opens a drawer which is full and pushes the contents around in search for the key, gives up and goes back through the door behind him. Much more extended jangling but no keys. Repeat search of desk top and desk drawer and by now I have been waiting for between five and ten minutes. "Come on upstairs and I'll let you in with the master key and I'll find yours later.

Room 9 is small and scruffy but the bed looks clean and that's all that matters. Wild eyes says I'll be back in a few minutes with your key" and while he's away I wonder how many months it is since the window has been cleaned and that is before the herring gull deposits hit the outside of it. He returns after ten minutes and when I open the door he hasn't got a key but a screwdriver in his hand and he proceeds to replace the door lock. When he's done this he hands me the key and I go out to dinner.

I slept well enough despite it being the night of the EU Referendum Vote.

I went down to breakfast and Wild Eyes was dressed in his chef whites with a bandana around his head, Immediately, I realised the best description of him is a wild eyed Willy Nelson. "I'll have boiled eggs and toast please" to which he asks "What colour soldiers would you like?" He disappears to cook my eggs and whilst he is away the waiter turns up and after complaining about the 'out-voters' he tries to take a breakfast order from a non-English speaking Japanese couple. I'm sure they don't understand the word omelette which is the speciality offer for breakfast but he tries to get them to choose between bacon, cheese, mushrooms and smoked salmon as a filling. He offers bacon to both of them and they both nod and then for some unknown reason he offers them cheese and they both nod. And the same when he asks about mushrooms and again for smoked salmon. This took ages as he went through it again and again and eventually seems to get a firm order from the wife but with a glance towards me at stage left with raised eyebrows he says "I don't think that bacon, cheese, mushrooms and smoked salmon will work". Eventually he takes an order for 2 x bacon, cheese, mushroom omelette with smoked salmon on the side. Goodness knows what the couple were expecting because they did not utter a single word of English throughout all of this.

Unfortunately I had a train to catch and could not to wait and find out and as I left I offered my key to wild eyed Willy Nelson asking "where would you like me to leave this as I wouldn't want it to get lost again". Willy responded "Oh it wasn't lost, I changed the lock if you remember".

I walked out the door wondering what on earth that meant as an explanation.

But do you know the weirdest thing of all, the job he gave to me after changing the lock had the number 9 on it.

Everyone should spend one night at the Cliff Hotel, Penzance.

2017

We may well be returning in June 2017 and anyone interested should speak to Richard Wells.

Chris Prichard

## **CLUB CLOTHING**

**We now have a range of clothing available bearing our Club Logo.**



**The range includes fleeces, sweatshirts, polo shirts in many colours and a rather natty hat.**

**We are selling these garments to you at cost i.e. this is not a fundraising exercise but an exercise in UNITY and TOGETHERNESS!**

**The catalogue is available to view on Thursday Nights at the Football Club.**

**Just ask Sally**

**Small print: Money up front at time of ordering please.**

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## **The Tango Twelve**

**(well eleven as it turned out)**

**Weymouth Trip July 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>**

Eleven club members had an enjoyable weekend on board the dive boat Tango, so called because it's a big orange boat. Although the weather was kind to us the rather lumpy sea prevented our doing two of the wrecks I had requested, namely the iconic Aeolian Sky and Elana R. However, we had 4 good dives, The British Inventor, The Black Hawk, Balaclava Reef and Sound Range and had some great scalloping opportunities.

The vis was good and the water temperature a balmy 14 degrees.

Tango has the advantage of being moored overnight on the quayside in the heart of Weymouth with easy access to pubs and has sleeping quarters aboard for those that don't mind "basic". This included Peter T, Simon, Jon A, Sophie & Chris H. Those of us preferring more genteel accommodation, B&B'd a short walk away: Miles, Hilary, Lynne, Robert, Paul N and me (Sally).

Our trip coincided with Weymouth's annual Seafood Festival with stalls set up on both sides of the quay. At any other time this would have been my idea of heaven but as it closed the quay to traffic it was set to stymie our attempts to drive the cylinders round to the "air shop" for filling. However, they came up trumps and sent a RIB across on Saturday afternoon to collect the cylinders and brought them back afterwards, with our help of course. Brilliant service!

Below is a picture of Tango and details of a trip that I am organising for 2017. Book now to avoid disappointment!

Sally Richards





### Weymouth Weekend July 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 (neaps)

As it was so enjoyable this year I have decided to run it again next year! This time it doesn't coincide with the Seafood Festival, but I can assure seafood lovers that there is never a shortage of seafood in Weymouth.

Tango has a Diver Lift and loo. Accommodation on board (£10/night just bed no breakfast) or you can B&B within walking distance.

Two days diving, two dives per day. Cost £90.

I have booked the whole boat and paid the deposit. 12 divers maximum.

Please contact me if you are interested. I will need a deposit of £60 to secure your place. [sallyrichards.myzen@outlook.com](mailto:sallyrichards.myzen@outlook.com) or 07533 246585.

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### **BSAC new training concerning In Water Rescue Breaths**

This is a summary of changes to BSAC Guidelines for In-water Rescue - the full document is attached to your email

BSAC now recommends the following in-water rescue sequence:

- Give one minute of rescue breaths (10 RBs)
- If no spontaneous breathing returns

Then either

- Tow the victim to shore as quickly as possible without further RB

Or

- Continue on the spot with approximately 10 RBs per minute until support from rescue boat or helicopter arrives to take over the resuscitation. This decision will depend on the local situation, such as sea conditions, distance to shore, and availability of rescue boat or rescue helicopter.
- In either case, when reaching shore, or having access to the boat or helicopter, the casualty should be promptly de-kitted and landed as quickly as possible without further rescue breaths.

The full document is attached to your email

# THE BAD OLD DAYS

I asked Keith Bond to send to me some shots and he chose these from the 1980's when we were driven down The Sinai Peninsular (and on occasions we pushed), slept on the beach and had a wonderful time.





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## FUTURE DIVE TRIPS

### SALCOMBE

I am hoping to run a second trip to Salcombe arriving Friday 9 September and leaving either Sunday 11th or Monday 12th September.

There is room for camping at Alston Farm on both dates (electrical hook up available), and there is a mobile home available for the September dates (3 nights minimum), alternatively there are B&B's etc in the area.

Please ask me for further details. Diving places are limited, however partners may come too, if you wish.

Deposit £50, first come, first secured.

Regards

Lynne Bunker

### THAILAND

17th - 25th November - liveaboard, - speak to Hilary Wilson.

### WEYMOUTH

July 2017 – Sally Richards is organising this trip and details appear earlier in this Newsletter.

### MEXICO

Since sending out an initial e-mail to you in October, I now have more details

**The date will be February 28<sup>th</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> 2017.**

The Dive Centre is called Underworld Tulum.

**This trip is specifically to dive in the Cenotes**, which are a series of underwater caverns and caves (fresh water) which open up periodically into open bodies of water where the cave roofs have collapsed, giving beautiful lighting effects. March is the best time to go as it is sunny but less humid and seldom rains. The diving requires good buoyancy and trim as some passages are quite narrow and changes in depth are fairly frequent, **so minimum Diver Grade is Sports Diver** with a good number of dives logged.

**We have 5 days diving in the Cenotes.**

**Accommodation.** We will be staying at The Dive Centre in their self catering apartments, (2 people per apartment). Restaurants and shops are within walking distance.

**On our non diving days**, we can go on excursions which the Dive Centre can arrange for us e.g. visit The Mayan Ruins.

There is also the opportunity to have another day of diving at the coast, but this doesn't replace any of the 5 days in the Cenotes.

**Flights.** We will be flying from Gatwick direct to Cancun. (probably Virgin Atlantic) (about 11 hours). The Dive Centre pick us up at the Airport and transfer us to their place.

I have already got 5 definites :- Me(!), Hilary, Miles, Peter Talbot and Jon Arthur.

**The cost** including flights, diving and accommodation will be about £1600

Have a look at their website [www.underworldtulum.com](http://www.underworldtulum.com) and the August edition of SCUBA has an article featuring them entitled Mayan Magic.

Please let me know asap if you are interested.

Regards, Sally

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### **OTHER DIVE LOCATIONS**

If you don't like any of the above locations and fancy diving somewhere else then why not organise a trip?

Not experienced enough? Nonsense!!!

Ask Miles and he will get one or two of the experienced divers to give you a hand. You'll soon learn and have a lot of fun as well.



## Stratford BSAC 0730 Committee 2016

Chairman: Hilary Wilson 07779 287558  
Training Officer: Peter Neal 07967 656462  
Diving Officer: Miles Howarth 07779 287558  
Recruitment: Lynne McCarthy 07775 940000  
Equipment Officer: Jay Scott 07976 283702  
Treasurer: Geoff Russell (01789 552614)  
Membership Secretary Pete Talbot 07958 447544  
Events: Angie Deaves 07792 775971  
Secretary: Sally Richards 01789 773668

**SUGGESTIONS OR PROBLEMS? THEN CALL ONE OF US**

### MEMBERSHIP FEES 2016

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 60 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 2016 is Miles Howarth and his contact number is shown above.