



TFI STRATFORD BSAC

motto:

'HE OR SHE WHO DARES FIN'S'

JULY 2017

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

INSIDE THIS MONTH

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Page 1 | Chairman's Report
Training Report |
| Pages 2 | Quote of the Month
Diving Officer's Report |
| Page 3 | Chairman's Report
contd
Using the Club RIBs |
| Pages 4-5 | Report from Club Safety
Committee |
| Pages 6-7 | River Festival and BBQ |
| Page 8 | Club Clothing |
| Page 9 | Trainee Sports Divers at
Stoney Cove |
| Page 10 | Improve the Club's
finances by reclaiming
duty from the
Government
Suunto Air Transmitters |
| Page 11 | CO2 canisters
Try a Dives
Stoney Summer
opening hours |
| Pages 12-14 | Portraits of New
Members |
| Page 15 | Dive Trips |
| Page 16 | The Anorak Page |

Attached to your email is:
The Diving Calendar for 2017
Not attached is a report on the
Scilly Trip which will follow shortly.

Chairman's Bit

I would like to draw your attention to the report from the Club Safety Committee which is included in this Newsletter. Please have a good look at it and if you have any questions speak to Miles, Russell or Richard.

Well what a pleasant and quiet period we have had, since the last edition of TFI.

The dive season is now clearly, well and truly underway and the sun continues to shine on us, warming the cold UK waters, to almost 'bathlike' conditions and this has now lead to peace and tranquility amongst us all and long may it last..... please!

There have already been several weekend trips, of course the annual 'Silly' trip and several weekends are also planned along with two Red Sea opportunities. I would like to give my own thanks to all the expedition leaders and boat towers that work hard to make these happen for the rest of us.....anyone can get involved with planning a trip, just ask Miles and he will get you some help and guidance.

Continued on page 3

FROM THE TRAINING POOL

Training in Stoney Cove has been continuing with David Williams taking trainees to sign off skills. Congratulations to Gatis and Alistair who have completed Ocean diver. Maja, Jon and Sarah are almost there. Clare Virgo started her sea diving. After a battle with kelp on her first dive she had a very enjoyable time diving the Colossus. Talk about starting on the best of British wrecks, it's downhill from now on Clare!

The Sports Diver Theory lectures have finished and we had a great turnout with 11 members taking part. So far Alastair Manning has passed his test (Congratulations A.M.) and Prich is confident that he will soon be followed by others. The 11 who are aspiring to be Sports Divers should take every opportunity to get their practical lessons signed in Stoney or the sea before the winter.

David Williams has offered to organise the Dive Leader course which will start in August or September with the lectures. We have several Sports Divers already signed up to this, if any others would like to join in, please contact either David or me.

Hilary Wilson Training Officer

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Prich " *Can I pay for this item please?*"

Lady behind desk at Stratford Pool & Leisure Centre Desk " *Do you have a Leisure Membership Card?*"

Prich "No"

Lady behind desk ... " *Have you been here before?*"

(It made me smile anyway)

DIVING OFFICER'S REPORT

Having received recent dive logs, it is noticeable that many Trainees and Ocean Divers are exceeding their depth limits.

BSAC rules are as follows:-

Trainees dives are limited to progressive depths starting with approximately 6 metres and progressing to 20 metres for their final training dives.

Qualified Ocean Divers can dive to a MAXIMUM of 20 metres even while they are under training as Sports Divers. Depth Progression deeper than 20 metres Depth comes AFTER qualifying as Sports Diver.

Sports Divers are limited to a MAXIMUM of 35 metres while training as Dive Leaders. Again, depth progression comes AFTER qualifying.

I know that mostly these limits are exceeded only by a margin of 3 or 4 metres, but it is regularly documented that this is happening within the Club and I want you all to be aware of these limits and make sure that we as a Club adhere to BSAC rules and regulations.

This month has seen the usual trips to Stoney Cove with the regular crew plus some training trips, including Sally and Peter's two trips to West Bay which succeeded in getting some of the newer members in the sea for the first time.

The annual trip to the Scilly Isles was a two weeker this year and went very well. The weather was very kind to us and the diving was varied with wrecks, walls and reefs - and a few things brought up for the pot! Further diving in the RIBs is organised for Hope Cove for the first week in August but there are plenty of weekends still left on the calendar for anyone who would like to book a trip.

Happy and safe diving,
Miles

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As you will all know, the boats are based at Lyme (Hornet) and Salcombe (Portia) and we are to consider what is best for Portia next year. I will email all members later in the year so you can have your opinion, on what you think is best, so look out for the email and respond.

The River Festival and club BBQ was a fantastic event and a lot of hard work was put into this by many people but especially, Ellen and Mark (they even arranged the weather), resurrecting what I believe was the 'norm' way before my time and long may this continue.

Enjoy the Summer.....on that note, I am away for most of it (school holidays) with the family so Sally Richards will help if you need to contact someone for help and it can't wait for me.

Pete Talbot

RIB Coxes and Users.

We have recently had a new VHF radio fitted to Hornet, an ICOM M323. Manual for your use can be located at -

www.icomamerica.com/en/downloads/DownloadDocument.aspx?Document=707

As with most electronic things now it has far more features and menus to complicate usage, most of which we will never use, and Richard Wells found it quite useable with his common sense, but there are a few points I would ask you to remember as follows:-

It has its own built in GPS, I have registered the radio to Hornet with OFCOM, with myself as the Licensee. Its MMSI ID code is 232008543. its call sign MBDX 4. I will give the instructions on how to enter to Jon Arthur so that its distress call is active for this coming weekend trip to Teignmouth. Russ – please add Code and Call Sign to the laminated safety sheets you are producing.

To activate distress press the Distress Key for 3 seconds, it will constantly transmit ID code and position every 3.5 to 4.5 minutes until call is acknowledged or cancelled. If activated in error you must call coastguard on Channel 16 to advise of false alarm. Operation is fairly atypical of radios, BUT please don't go playing around in menu and reconfigure from the basic operation.

The one thing that was not apparent to Richard was the volume/squelch. When power is OFF push volume knob down for 1 second to turn ON, and 1 second to turn OFF. Quick push on volume knob will toggle between Volume, Squelch, Channel Selection, and Back Light, when in these modes the Squelch etc can be adjusted.

The 4 'Soft Keys' at bottom allow access to SCAN, DUAL/TRI WATCH, CHANNEL SELECTION, AQUA QUAKE (hold down to clear surface water from speaker), FAVOURITE CHANNEL (Usually 77 for us).

Generally holding down buttons for 1 second or 3 seconds enters/cancels features.

Safe diving

Kind Regards
Geoff Russell

STRATFORD BSAC SAFETY COMMITTEE

: Our club recognises the requirement to keep up to speed with all BSAC safe diving practices and this is managed by the Club Safety Committee.

: Every year the Club Committee appoints two experienced divers to sit on this Safety Committee with the Diving Officer to help with our safe diving practices & to officially report any Incidents to BSAC HQ & our Club Committee.

: Your 2017 Safety Committee comprises:

Miles Howarth. 07799 757654. mileshowarth@yahoo.co.uk
Diving Officer, BSAC Advanced Diver, Open Water Instructor.

Russell Thompson. 07973 551041. russell@cotswoldoakltd.co.uk
BSAC Advanced Diver, Open Water Instructor & Technical Instructor.

Richard Wells. 07823 323071. whittcliff@yahoo.co.uk
BSAC Advanced Diver, Open Water Instructor.

The following is the advice and reminders being given to Members following their latest meeting

: Experienced divers organising a weekend expedition or a trip abroad or simply a pair of divers heading to Stoney need to be sure of our safety procedures.

Please feel free to contact any of the Safety Committee above for help or advice.

: Do you need to report an Incident?

What constitutes an Incident?

The simple answer is that BSAC state that “Any unusual occurrence” should be reported at Club level & the Committee will decide if it is to be included in an Incident Report “

To help with this simple description given by BSAC we advise you that an Incident is anything that goes wrong or anything that causes any degree of panic or any equipment failure or anything that forces you to change from your dive plan.

Any such Incident should be reported to the Expedition Leader & Diving Officer who will in turn provide details to the Safety Committee who will decide if the Incident needs to be reported to BSAC.

More often than not minor situations are not reportable & are handled on the day or trip with simple advice or remedy from experienced divers or Expedition Leader.

More serious situations must follow the above process.

The data received can help our Club ensure any Incidents are not repeated & are considered & handled with a professional approach.

The basic ethos is that the above process is “An opportunity to learn “
In turn BSAC can develop the best safe diving practices based on all Club reports.

: Safe Diving Practices.

BSAC have appointed a “Safety & Incidents Advisor “ Brian Comming who has produced a basic guide with all up to date techniques & skills along with all emergency procedures & contact numbers.

Please follow the link below for your free copy of this guide book.

<https://www.bsac.com/page.asp?section=1019§ionTitle=Safe+Diving>

Updates to this guide book are provided from time to time and the recent ones are:

- Basic Life Support guidelines - Rescue breaths & towing procedures
- Lost buddy procedure & surfacing drills.
- Contact numbers for Decompression Incidents as below..
 - Emergencies at sea, contact should be made via the Coastguard on **VHF DSC** (or Channel 16).
 - For other emergency assistance, when ashore in the UK, use **999 or 112**, as usual.
 - When diving outside of the UK, ensure that you know the local emergency contact procedures.
 - For non emergency advice you should call one of the National Decompression Illness Helplines which are:
 - In England, N.Ireland or Wales call **07831 151 523**
 - In Scotland call **0345 408 6008**

BSAC Members will find these numbers printed on the reverse of their membership card.

A copy of the above along with a VHF DSC radio guide is provided on a laminated sheet on each boat & with each oxygen set.

Dive logs, which should be used on every dive have been updated with these details.

Should you have any questions or issues please contact your Safety Committee.

RIVER FESTIVAL AND BBQ

The River Festival certainly crept up on us once again. This year we had a really good pitch for our stand, right by the river (so tempting to go for a quick dip to cool down in some fairly hot weather!). We were next to our RNLI friends.

This year we had power, and Alastair was quick to volunteer to use his IT skills to assist us get some kind of presentation with underwater footage together. Thank you so much.

8 am in the Saturday morning Jay and myself were trying to work out how to pitch the pop up gazebo, yes yes, we all know it's easier once you have done it before! We were assisted by a friend of Jay's and then a smiling Paul Nash appeared. They were followed by Paul and Anthony, and Robert, who very kindly sorted coffee-thanks Robert. Once we were all set up we were able to relax a little.

Various club members had volunteered to do stints of 2 hours, David Williams, Alastair Manning, Glen, Jamie, Maja Perme, Paul x 2, Ellen Noakes and Jon A obviously enjoyed himself so much that he was there most of the day!



On the Sunday it was back again and getting ready for the 10am start with a different set of club members.



The event was very well attended and we have a dozen booked in for try dives with several already paid. This is about treble of last years. We had a lot serious conversations with people and especially more interest from local people but as always, time will tell. Overall I feel this year's Festival was a great success, and I wish to thank all those who helped out in any way.

Lynne Bunker

BBQ

In between the two days of Festival we had the Club BBQ organised by Ellen and Dan with a team of Andy B, Peter Scarpy, Marie, Maja and others cooking the food and serving the guests.

The food was good, the drink flowed and the company was excellent as always.

This is the main fund raising event of the year and we raised a total of about £1,400. Congratulations to Ellen and Dan and their team.

-OoO-

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



**The range includes T-shirts, polo shirts,
sweatshirts, hoodies, fleeces, hats, in many
colours and sizes.**

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

UNITY and TOGETHERNESS!

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

Just ask Sally Richards

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

**We can now get the LOGO added to any garment so if
nothing in the catalogue appeals, bring along your favourite
WASHED garment and our Logo can be added for £6.**

(note: no time to sit in those folding chairs)



Reclaiming revenue duty paid on RIB fuel.

May I remind all Expedition Leaders and those doing club trip accounts that we have the opportunity to claim back almost 50% of fuel purchased from the Inland Revenue.

To enable this to be done I need fuel receipts and a log of the passages made by RIBS.

Would Expedition Leaders and Expedition Accounts nominees please manage this process, as I do not intend to chase around various club members looking for receipts and logs of passages.

Kind Regards
Geoff Russell

-oOo-

If you have a Suunto tank pressure air transmitter as shown below this WILL apply to you.

Suunto's warning is NOT to use the transmitter until it has been 'repaired'.....this does not apply to the computer, just the transmitter.

Follow the link www.suunto.com/recall and you will see what the problem is and how to resolve it at no cost.

I have looked into this and contacted Stoney Cove to confirm that they are an Authorised Service Centre, able to deal with this issue.

This will not be quick and will need to be left with them(transmitter only) and they expect to be very busy because of this, so be warned!

Stoney Cove 01455 273089.....there are other device centre's via the link if you want to find them.

Pete Talbot



CO2 Cylinders for Auto Inflate DSMBs.

When you are next needing CO2 Cylinders (16gm) for your Auto Inflate DSMB, please contact me (Sally). I ordered 300 recently so that we can all take advantage of the discount on bulk purchase. They work out at 55p each and come in boxes of 10 so that's £5.50 per box.

Regards, Sally sallyrichards.myzen@outlook.com

---000---

TRY A DIVES

SPECIAL RATES FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Speak to Lynne Bunker to arrange one.

-oOo-

STONEY COVE LONGER SUMMER OPENING HOURS

Just to let you know that on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in each month, Stoney has extended opening hours. On those Wednesdays it opens as normal at 8.30 AM but instead of closing at 4PM it remains open until 9PM. However, you have to be out of the water between 5PM and 6PM. I believe also that you have to be out of the water at 8PM but the shop remains open until 9PM.

This raises the possibility for trainees and their Instructors to either go and stay all day and get maybe 3 or even 4 dives in, Surface Intervals permitting, or arrive in the afternoon and get 2 or 3 dives in.

The next one of these Wednesdays is May 3rd. The one after is May 17th (Committee Meeting),

This will be of particular note to those wanting to get as much OW experience before going on the first Lyme Training Trip May 20th/21st.

Please note: This isn't every alternate Wednesday, it's the 1st and 3rd Wednesday so for example it doesn't apply to Wednesday May 31st as that is the 5th Wednesday in May.

Regards, Sally

-OoO-

NEW MEMBERS PORTRAITS

All,

My name is Alastair Manning and I live in Dorsington, about 5 miles west from Stratford Upon Avon.



I was born in Basingstoke, but grew up in Poole. When I was 18 I moved to Swansea and lived there for 12 years. I moved to Stratford Upon Avon 13 years ago.

I am married to Claire and we have 2 boys aged 9 and 11. It is hard to find a photo of us all in at once, family selfies are not my speciality. Both boys are keen to try diving so they will be looking for a try dive when they are a little older. I also enjoy skiing and running. I run with my eldest son (who is now faster than me). Anything outdoors that tires the boys out is good for me.

My background is pathology and I started in the NHS. Now I work for a medical company based in Frankfurt so I spend most of the week away from home.

Before joining, I had tried diving once on a holiday in Turkey. Looking back, what we were doing was so dangerous. It has been good to learn how to dive as safely as possible with the club and I am looking forward to developing new skills and meeting new people.

Alastair

Hi Everyone,

I'm Sarah Lloyd. I'm originally from Blackpool but have lived in and around Birmingham since my student days. My intention was to move back to the seaside, but I met Jon and settled down with a job in marketing, then retail buying. I retrained as a teacher when I was 30. Jon and I moved to Bidford nearly 2 years ago (no sea still but a lovely river will do for now) and I work mostly in schools in Warwickshire and Worcestershire. I love working with children as they're just brilliant and there's never a dull moment.

I've always loved swimming and hill-walking particularly in the Lake District and we've loved walking our greyhound around the countryside nearby. I'm learning to dive just for fun, having first become interested after a try dive in Turkey a couple of years ago. We also love camping so are hoping to get in some UK camping/diving trips sometime soon, when we have got the hang of our drysuits.

Hi there. Jon Lloyd here - Sarah's other half.

Born in Walsall, schooled somewhere cold and windy, educated partly by the Open University (Art History), and partly by the School of Life - still awaiting my Diploma.

Apart from diving, I love hiking, camping, running and cooking. Also books, films, theatre and of course, art. I am a passionate supporter of local hostelrys (purely for cultural reasons of course).

I'm in the training business, helping people build better relationships by adapting their behavioural style to others. I also work with apprentices, getting them ready for the work place.

We have a greyhound, Roops, who some of you will have seen in the Stratford FC bar.



Sarah's better pic on next page!



DIVE TRIPS



HURRY!! ONLY 3 SPACES LEFT

Weymouth Weekend September 16th/17th 2017

Organiser: Sally Richards

As it was so enjoyable last year I have decided to run it again in 2017. 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. I have a list of B&Bs.

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

Diving: Wrecks and Reefs.

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

Minimum Diver Grade is Sports Diver with at least 20 UK Sea Dives. Max. Depth @ 30M.

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

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.

-OoO-

Stratford BSAC 0730 Committee 2017

Chairman :Pete Talbot 07958 447544
Training Officer: Hilary Wilson 07779 287558
Diving Officer: Miles Howarth 07779 287558
Recruitment: Lynne McCarthy 07775 940000
Equipment Officer: Peter Scapellino 077087 25050
Treasurer: Geoff Russell (01789 552614)
Membership Secretary Paul Nash 07966 401610
Events: Angie Deaves 07792 775971
Secretary: Sally Richards 01789 773668

SUGGESTIONS OR PROBLEMS? THEN CALL ONE OF US

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2017

To the Stratford Branch, all Members pay an annual subscription of £120 towards costs of the Branch.
To BSAC, Members pay an annual subscription of £57.50 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 £20 a session.
Training Books vary but typically the cost for an Ocean Diver is £60 which includes Sports Diver Books.
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 50% of the fuel price e.g.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 2017 is Miles Howarth and his contact number is shown above.