

**The
Diving
Club**



The Hyperbaric Times

Issue 104

March 2004

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The views expressed in the articles in this newsletter are personal and should not be taken to be representative of The Diving Club or its Committee, unless specifically stipulated to be so

Special points of interest:

- Copy to be received by 09/04 for inclusion in the April 2004 issue (out 14/04/04)

A Message From the Editor

Editorial

Hello,
Is there anybody out there? You might be forgiven for having abandoned me - it's been a long time, but like Arnie, I always said "I'll be back".

The main reason for the long hiatus was a major lack of content for the newsletter - but that now seems to have changed for the better and they're starting to flood, well trickle in. So, keep up the good work.

Some while ago I suggested that some of the newer members of the club (who are generally also new to diving) might like to put pen to paper and give us a fresh outlook on the sport. So if you feel the urge, please do give it a go and send me something. We will generally accept almost any viewpoint on diving, resorts, social scene etc. The format should be generally acceptable in mixed company, but you've all been round divers long enough to see that there is a reasonable degree of lenience there. I do however reserve the right to wield the editorial blue pencil if I see fit - but that hasn't really happened for a long time. So, once again please do feel encouraged to make your

mark on the HT.

Gary has asked me to put in a small note about the possibility of a diving trip to Kenya later in the year. I have dived north of Mombasa and the scenery, wildlife, people and surroundings are wonderful. We were there in November and saw a whale shark on the way to a dive - and missed two others whilst underwater! - so I can thoroughly recommend it to anyone looking for warm water diving somewhere different. If you're interested contact Gary on kenya@divestyle.co.uk

Nicki, our newly co-opted Social Secretary is all fired up with enthusiasm and ideas, so if you see one of her events that takes your fancy don't just sit there get on to her and book it! Similarly if you have an idea for something to do then contact Nicki to discuss it (her contact details are on the back cover).

Well that's all for now, so to quote Arnie once more - "*hasta la vista Babies*"

Peter Winn

The Diving Club *Dives 2004*

Date	Location	Boat	Max Depth	Cost Per day	Spaces	Level
28 March	Poole	Big Dinghy*	18m	£35	FULL	O
17/18 April	Swanage	Swanage* Diver	20-30m	£37	2	C
25 April	Swanage	Swanage Diver*	18m	£32	3	O
22 May	Littlehampton	Michelle Mary*	18m	£39	FULL	O
23 May	Horsea	SETT	30m	£29	FULL	All
29/30/31 May	Pembroke	2x ribs*	20-40m	£35	FULL	C
19/20 June	Portland	Top Gun	18m	£34 B&B £20-25pppn	FULL	O
26/27 June	Poole	Big Dinghy	20-40m	£35	5	C
3 /4 July	Selsey	Dive Eclipse	18m	£39	6	O
24/25 July	Looe	Looe Divers*	25-30	£35 inc air fills)	6	C
31 July /1 Aug	Farne Islands	Sovereign II	20-40m	£27 +£20 B&B pppn	FULL	C
14 August	Swanage	N/A	Pier		Unltd	All
15 August	Swanage	Swanage Diver*	18m	£32	7	O
12 Sept	Poole	Big Dinghy	18m	£35	FULL	O
18/19 Sept	Lymington	New Dawn Diver	20-40m	£40	1	C
25/26 Sept	Plymouth	Ceeking	20-40m	£100 all inc	FULL	C
23/24 Oct	Weymouth	Tango*	18m	£39	6	All

* Two cylinders needed

A supplement (£1.50-£2.00 per dive) is added to provide a subsidised place for the Diveleader on Orientation Dives

Non Club members will be asked to pay a £5 supplement per day

When a dive is shown as full, there will be a reserve list in case of cancellations

For further information please contact

Morag Ward 07904 207306

email diveorientation@thedivingclub.co.uk

Social Event

Friday 7th May 2004

At

Jongleurs, Reading

Show starts at 8.30pm



£17 Per Person

If you would like to come please pay in full to a committee member by 16th April 2004

Make cheques payable to N Smith and not The Diving Club please

Nicki can be contacted on 07786 985434

Cold Water Weekend 17-18 Jan

Stoney Cove

What a way to start the years diving! 20 divers gathered at Stoney for what is becoming a bit of a club tradition. Some had driven up on Friday night for some... er... dive planning, and what better way to do that than over a beer or two in the Mill on the Soar. There had originally been 24, but due to illness and work commitments, this had dropped to 21. So, how did we lose the other diver? we wanted to know that too, and the answers we got to that question included: 'The gerbil ate my regulators', 'I gave away my BCD', 'We didn't have any shore cover', 'I needed a haircut'.... The list went on and on, as did taking the Mickey.



Although it meant an early start, we wanted to be sure to get into the bottom car park, so the plan was to gather for about 8am at Stoney, ready to dive at 9. Buddy pairs were organised, and we dived in small groups. As each group came out from the first dive, it was obvious that it had been a good one. Visibility was excellent and pike were in abundance. The water was a bit on the chilly side (about 5-7) and was much colder in slightly deeper water than on the 7m shelf.

Everyone went in for a first dive and were so enthused by the delights of Stoney they then went in for a second. They were not a disappointment either. Everyone had paid attention to Peter when he had gone through preventing freeflows and other cold water considerations, as there were only 2 for the whole two days. One was dealt with simply by switching to a pony, and ending the dive, the other was a pony on the surface at the end of the dive. No other problems came to light except for the odd leaky dry suit.



After Saturdays diving, the customary log book gathering was in the pub over a bit of lunch and a beer. One or two in the group can recommend the bread and butter pudding! I think that just about everyone took advantage of a few hours in the hotel before dinner to enjoy a well deserved sleep.

We gathered in the Mill for more post dive eating and drinking, and discussing the dives, but by about 10pm even the biggest party animal was falling asleep in the bar. The original plan had been for all 20 of us to do another 2 dives on the Sunday. However, when we were asked about breakfast, the temptation for a lie in was too great. After examining dry suits, which had frozen solid overnight, some of us decided to sit in the January sunshine

Mike's Spring Sale

and watch the other 16 dive. Those who did take the plunge enjoyed it although there was less enthusiasm for second dives! However, everyone still gathered in the pub afterwards for the post dive warm up.

It turned out to be a great weekend. The weather was kind to us, The diving was as good as the company and the viz was the best some of us have ever seen at Stoney. The question is.... Why did Peter decide not to dive? Answers on a postcard to.....



Morag Ward
Dive Organiser

The Great Mike's Spring Sale is upon us

SO TEN GOOD REASONS TO BUY FROM MIKE'S

With Mike's famous Dive Show Sale starting on Saturday 20th March and running until Saturday 3rd April there are lots of good reasons to buy from us, with the top ten being:

We'll match most show offers (just call us – even on Sunday 28th March)

All cylinders are filled, tested and carried to your car (you must have your car with you!)

Choose from all the major manufactures

You'll be served by diving professionals

Purchase what you want in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere - not a bun fight

All our deals are genuine offers on the latest equipment – never old stock that we're trying to get rid of

We'll change equipment you buy from us if you're not happy for any reasons (must be in new condition)

We assemble and test the equipment (after all, it is your life support system)

Our sale lasts for two whole weeks not just two days and no crowds!

No entrance fees or parking costs

Why not call, visit or e-mail us:

mike's

UK'S N°1 DIVE STORES

Maiden Lane Centre
Lower Earley
Reading RG6 3HD
Tel 0118 926 2288
E-mail: sale@divestyle.co.uk

Your Last Chance!!!



The Diving Club - Reading

Orientation Diving 2004

Big Dinghy 28th March



One of the largest RIB's on the south coast will take us to some excellent dive sites.

Meet: 8.45am, Opposite Thistle Hotel, Poole BH15 3HD, Poole Boat leaves: 9.30... don't be late, the boat won't wait!

Dives: Drift, 10.30, Drift, 1.00, Valentin, Tanks 3.30

Price: £35* for 3 dives (non club members will be asked to pay an additional £5)

Drop your kit off on the quayside, & park in the hotel carpark (approx £5 per day)

As we plan to do 3 dives, you will need 2 cylinders Stop for lunch in Swanage

For more information and to book your place, contact Morag Ward, Orientation Dive Organiser.

*This includes a surcharge to provide subsidised places for a Divemaster



Phone: 07904 207306

Fax: 0118 932 0655

Email: diveorientation@thedivingclub.co.uk

New to DiveStyle for 2004 is the :

PADI Diver Propulsion Vehicle Course

Featuring the newly launched Seadoo, you can experience the thrill of moving through the water with no effort, giving you the chance to cover much more area than you would via the traditional fin method. Using the GTi model, it is depth rated to 30 metres and will pull you along at an impressive 3mph.

Why not give it a go one Tuesday or Wednesday evening in the pool with a Discover DPV session. It only costs £10 and is refundable should you book onto a DPV Specialty, the first of which is running on the 16th May at Stoney Cove.

What do I need to start?

- Be a minimum of PADI Open Water Diver or Junior Open Water Diver certification (or qualifying certification from another organisation)
- Minimum age: 12 years old

What will I do?

During the program, you'll learn the techniques you need to know for safe diver propulsion vehicle operation. This includes:

- Diver propulsion vehicle dive planning organisation, procedures, techniques, problems and hazards
- Equipment and procedure considerations
- How to avoid harming fragile aquatic life

How long will it take?

- Minimum Open Water Training: 2 dives over one day

If you fancy giving it a go, give Kim or myself a call at the shop on 0118 926 2288 or send an email to dpv@divestyle.co.uk. Full course details are available on the website.

I've tried them out myself and they are loads of fun!

Gary



This could be you!

DiveStyle Training Courses

COURSE	DATE
Open Water - Windsor	9- March
Open Water - Reading	10 - March
OW Dives Horsea	6 & 7 March
OW Intensive	27 & 28 March
	17 & 18 April
Advanced OW	24 & 25 Apr
Rescue Diver	17 & 18 April
Specialties	
Nitrox	24 th & 25 th April
Navigation Spec.	21 March
DPV	16 May
Deep & Wreck Specs.	24 & 25 April
U/W Photographer Spec.	25 April
EFR	30 Mar & 6 April
Dan 02	01-Apr

Full course details are now available on the DiveStyle web site
www.divestyle.co.uk

Certain Speciality courses such as Dry Suit Diver and Peak Performance
 Buoyancy can be run on
 demand. Just call 0118 926 2288 for full details.

Membership Matters!

Your Membership Matters!

Hello fellow Divers, Members etc etc.....

Please welcome another two new members to the diving club during February 2004: Adrian Elsey and James Barrett.

Please make a note - the contact info for the membership secretary is:-

Nicola Wright
Home address 25, Chaucer Way, Wokingham,
Berks, RG41 3BG
Phone No. 0118 977 3802
e-mail membership@thedivingclub.co.uk

Your Club Web site is www.thedivingclub.co.uk

The general e-mail address for The Diving Club is info@thedivingclub.co.uk

Membership

(Unfortunately – **60 members** have still not renewed for 2004. Your subscription was due between Sep'03 and Nov'03. As a result I am listing those members. Please let me know via e-mail if you have sent a remittance into one of the committee members – they may have not yet passed it on to me. Could you also alert me to the fact that you may have already posted it to me. If either is the case I apologise in advance.



For renewals – this will be kept open until the end of March 2004. If we have not received your subscription by 31st March 2004, your details will be deleted from the database. Please remember that your **renewal** membership charge is as follows:

The sixty members are as follows (listed in no particular order):

Mark Wallace; Philip Kruger; Roy Stevenson; Steve Wright; Karen Marks; Ian Middleton; Gary Clark; Robert Birt; Mary-Jane Whitaker; John Campbell; Stephanie Richardson; Tom Cousins; Derek Meakin; Stephen Cripps; Colin Horsfield; Mike Palmer; Jim Cassidy; Nick Robinson; Bill Marks; Carey Jack; Paula Miller; Terry Joyce; Derek Shearer; Ugur Ozmelek; Mark Shand; Sandra Cousins; Nicola Morris; Richard Allen; Tim Bourne; Colin Farr; Paul Jones; Gareth Watkins; Chris Tickner; Robert Rea; Joanne Handley; Tom Briggs; Jane Wilkinson; Michael Meadows; Mandy Dow; Simon Frith; Emma Young; John Ridley; Nick Oversion; Michelle Ransley; Wayne Williams; Ignacio Escamilla; Chris White; Anne Robinson; Dave Wills; Keith Hildreth; Colin Richardson; Kathy Roberts; Diane Brown; Aaron Clark; Lucy Starbuck; Alyson King; Peter Hobbs; Tom Hildreth; Roger Purvis; Gary Jarman.

To rejoin the club, please complete the membership form (and complete the section pertaining to Sep'03 – Nov '03) found on the website and or ask a committee member at club night on Wednesday evening. Forms can also be found at the shop 'DiveStyle', Mikes Waterfront Warehouse, Maiden Lane Shopping Centre, Lower Earley, Reading, Berks RG6 3HD.

For those of you who are still not receiving notification of the HBT by e-mail, please send a separate e-mail to myself and Peter Winn (Publicity Officer) – there may be a mistake with your e-mail address.

If you have changed your e-mail address, don't forget to let us know.

Nicola



We're on the Web
www.thedivingclub.co.uk

DiveStyle
 Mikes Waterfront Warehouse
 Maiden Lane Shopping Centre
 Lower Earley
 Reading, Berks
 RG6 3HD
 Tel: 0118 926 2288
 Fax: 0118 926 9616
www.divestyle.co.uk

The Diving Club and Windsor Divers are chapters of the PADI Diving Society and aim to allow newly qualified divers and existing members a forum to meet and dive with other divers. We are a PADI orientated group, which accepts divers from any diver-training agency (ie BSAC, SAA, NAUI, IANTD etc). We have close ties to DiveStyle, who conduct all our training and offer us use of their pool sessions for equipment testing.

The Diving Club - Committee Members



President	Peter Wright	0118 926 2288	07768 726599	president@thedivingclub.co.uk
Chairman	Andy Neatham			chairman@thedivingclub.co.uk
Treasurer	Nick Hill			treasurer@thedivingclub.co.uk
Club Secretary	Brenda Taylor	0118 9775748		secretary@thedivingclub.co.uk
Orientation Dive organiser	Morag Ward		07904 207306	diveorientation@thedivingclub.co.uk
Club Dive organiser				diveadvanced@thedivingclub.co.uk
Social secretary	Nicki Smith		07786 985434	social@thedivingclub.co.uk
Membership secretary	Nicola Wright	0118 977 3802		membership@thedivingclub.co.uk
Publicity Officer	Peter Winn	01344 455280	07971 024307	publicity@thedivingclub.co.uk
Webmaster	Grant Gibson			webmaster@thedivingclub.co.uk