

The Seahorse Dive Club Newsletter

November 2004

Dear club member,

Welcome to the new-look Seahorse Dive Club newsletter. Malcolm Cole and I will be your new Newsletter editors as Mike is currently busy with work commitments.

We will be keeping you informed with what is currently happening in the club, together with recent and forthcoming events. Details of courses that Mark and Jason will be running in the following months will be published here and on the new website.

New website? I hear you say. Yes, that's right. Malcolm and myself will be hosting the new Seahorse club website in the very near future. All the old information, plus a lot more. With a new bright look and in new fresh colours the web has been designed to be easy to use and simple to navigate.

The URL will remain the same: <http://www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/> so don't forget to check frequently. We will be sending out an e-mail to everyone to announce the launch anyway.

It is planned to issue these newsletters around the 1st of every month and this is where you come in; we need your input. We cannot produce a full issue without your help. We want your trip reports, photographs, website comments and feedback. Tell us if you are planning a dive trip, at home or abroad. Any funny incidents (or serious), that you would like to bring everyone's attention.

We would like your dive trip photographs for the website, JPEG or TIFF formats are fine but film can be scanned.

If you have dive items for sale, or are looking for a bargain, then let us know and we will publish it in the next issue. Tell us what you want in these newsletters and on the website.

All Mike's old newsletters will still be available on the new website should you wish to dig them out.

So that's it for now. Safe diving and remember, this is your club – get involved!

Steve Cain

Contact: Steve Cain stevecain@tiscali.co.uk

Malcolm Cole malcolm.cole@btinternet.com

Latest News

Don't forget it's the Dive 2004 show next week-end. Tickets £7 in advance from: <http://www.diveshows.co.uk/index.asp> or £9.50 at the door.

I have arranged for a supply of Divers Gold cards for all club members. These cards are free and contain emergency contact details for divers requiring emergency medical treatment. The service they offer is funded by the NHS. New cards are currently being printed and I will be distributing them as soon as I have them. I will keep you posted.

We have had some new members join us in the past few months. Please welcome Carol Taylor, Sean de Gruyter, Ben Horton, Emma Huxtable, Matthew Parsons and Stephen Waggott to the club.

Would our new members and anyone else who dives and does not have a membership card and tag please contact Steve Cain ASAP. We need to arrange for photographs to be taken. This is a requirement for anyone who dives with the club.

The Christmas dinner at Stoney Cove has been announced. It will be held on Wednesday 15th December. Contact Mark Horton to book your place; NOW! telephone: 01793 731843 Remember, if you don't do the 2nd dive you don't get any pudding!

Diving

There have been a couple of dive trips abroad in the past few months. Paul Cole and Sue Meakin departed for sunnier climes in southern Red Sea in September. They sailed from Marsa Alam aboard the Coral Queen. I also sailed from Marsa Alam at the same time aboard the Sea Serpent; visiting St. Johns Reef, Fury Shoals and Elphinstone. Our boats sailed almost parallel courses and at one point we were moored to each other at a dive site. The weather was hot and the diving was superb; I dived with whitetip reef sharks on 2 dives (and I have the video footage to prove it!).

Phil Green is off to plunder the wrecks and reefs of the Northern Red Sea in early November. No Phil, I don't want a porthole off the Thistlegorm (leave them for the BSAC guys 😊), but you won't get away without a report and some piccies when you get back though.



The Coral Queen



The Sea Serpent

Courses and Training

Jason ran an EFR course on Saturday 23rd Oct for those who needed to update their skills. This was a success and well received.

I have noticed that a large number of club members are OW or AOW certified. If you fall into this category why not consider moving up a grade. Mark will be running Advanced, EFR and Rescue courses soon. The Advanced course is great fun and qualifies you to dive to 30 metres. The EFR and Rescue courses are more serious. They train you in First Aid procedures, diving problems, self and buddy rescue and how to identify potential problems before they arise. Rescue Diver is recommended as the minimum level you should be looking to achieve. What would you do if your buddy ran out of air and made a rapid ascent from 30 metres. Would you know what to do? What if it happened to you? you would hope that someone could help you; wouldn't you? Think about it.

We are looking into providing an O₂ provider and boat handling class in the near future. If you are interested then please contact Steve Cain stevecain@tiscali.co.uk or Dave Hall rockindave2@hotmail.com

Whitehorse Divers is at: <http://www.againstthewind.org.uk/whitehorse/index.htm>

Social

A paintball day has been scheduled for Saturday 27th November. If you are interested then please contact Mark Hampshire mark@alser.co.uk

For sale

Club clothing now available. We can now offer a range of Poloshirts, Fleeces, and Caps with the club logo tactfully embroidered on them.

Contact Malcolm Cole malcolm.cole@btinternet.com for prices and to order. They really are very good quality. We expect to see more items from a new supplier soon; with the same quality of course.

Links

Some useful Links and contact numbers:

Seahorse Dive Club: <http://www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/>

White Horse Divers: <http://www.againstthewind.org.uk/whitehorse/index.htm> Tel: 01793 731843

Website of the month: <http://www.ukdiving.co.uk/>

Contributions are always welcome, if you have something you want including in the next newsletter then please send it to: stevecain@tiscali.co.uk OR malcolm.cole@btinternet.com

Please send pictures as JPEGs or TIFFs and any text as .txt or .doc.

Remember, this is your club, your Newsletter.

Get involved!

This Newsletter is published on the first day of every month.
Please submit any content you want considering for publication by the 21st of the month preceding the publication date.