

The Seahorse Dive Club Newsletter

February 2005

Dear Club Member,

2005 started in full swing at the Lime Kiln pool seeing large numbers of club members in attendance on Saturday evenings. Mark and Jason both commenced adult Open Water courses in January and there has been a good flow of try-divers getting their fins wet for the first time.

Not much is happening dive-wise at home at the moment. Mark will be making trips to Vobster and Stoney Cove over the coming weeks should anyone feel the need to get wet.

However, we have some good news for anyone looking for some warmer diving. A trip to Tenerife has been arranged for mid April. More details in the Dive Trips abroad section later in this newsletter. We have 5 names confirmed already. www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/travel.htm

Steve Marchant sent some good photos from his trip to Cuba over the Christmas holidays; see later in the newsletter and on the website in the Galleries.

Looking further ahead to March, the London International Dive Show will be held on the 5th and 6th March. Tickets can be purchased from www.diveshows.co.uk or telephone 020 8977 9878

Dive safely,

Steve Cain

Contact: Steve Cain stevecain_diving@tiscali.co.uk Malcolm Cole malcolm.cole@btinternet.com

Latest News

Vobster have increased their prices by £2 per visit, Mark Horton tried to negotiate a club discount without success. The Vobster Quay website is at: <http://www.vobsterquay.co.uk/>

The Christmas dinner photograph from Stoney Cove and the article from the Gazette and Herald newspaper have been submitted for inclusion to the Stoney Cove newsletter.

The club AGM date has been set for 19th March, to be held at the Lime Kiln clubroom. Please make a note in your diaries, stick a note on the fridge... whatever, but don't forget! More details will be in the March newsletter.

We had three new members join the club in January. Please give a warm welcome to John Parmiter, Tony Frewin and Jake Frewin.

Diving UK

Mark Horton will be diving week-ends throughout February at Vobster and mid-week at Stoney Cove. If you are interested then give Mark a ring, usual number 01793 731843. Bear in mind the increased charges at Vobster, £14 for Day divers, £9.50 for registered Quay members. Also, if going to Vobster you will need a tenner for your dive tag – refunded on departure.

Dive trips abroad

Jason will be going to Thailand on February 19th until mid March. Whilst there he will be arranging the details for the planned club trip this for October. If you are at all interested in going on this trip then please let Jason know before he goes – he needs to have some idea of possible numbers. This will be a 10 to 12 day trip including 5 days Liveaboard and 3 days shore diving. There will also be time for sightseeing and shopping. The maximum price will be around £1280, but this figure may come down nearer the time depending on flights. It is hoped that Jason will be back with the details at the AGM on the 19th March. Jason can be contacted on 01793 347998, or e-mail elephantmann@hotmail.com

A dive trip has now been arranged to Tenerife for this April. This will be 6 days RIB diving (approx. 12 dives) with Tenerife Scuba: www.tenerifescuba.com/ Dates are: depart Saturday 16th April returning Saturday 23rd April. Approximate cost £380 to £420 all in except for food. If you are interested then send Steve Cain an e-mail ASAP: stevecain_diving@tiscali.co.uk for the full details. We need to book places and reserve flights quickly, so confirmation and air fare (approx. £160) is needed within the first week of February.

A number of club members also discussed a trip to Estartit in Spain for this spring. After lengthy discussions we decided to go for the Canary trip above instead.

Also discussed was a trip to the Scilly Isles for the summer. The problem with the Scillies is that they are just so popular, and with just one dive centre on the islands they get booked up well in advance. This trip really needs to be planned at least 1 year in advance. When enquiries were made before Christmas most of 2005 had already been booked.

Steve Marchant went to Cuba over the Christmas break. He dived reef walls at the Bay of Pigs and a couple of wrecks; a Tugboat and large Russian destroyer. Below are some of his photos. There is also a slide show of Steve's pics on the website. Nice one Steve.



Radar tower



Divers on shot line



Corals

Courses and Training

Due to insufficient numbers Jason's Enriched Air course planned for the end of January was postponed. The EFR course planned for 15th January was also postponed for the same reason.

New planned dates are:

EFR – last weekend in March (2 names already)

Enriched Air – date depends on response (1 name already)

Open Water (adult) – starts Saturday 26th March

Jason can be contacted on: 01793 347998 or elephantmann@hotmail.com

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

E-mail: whitehorsediving@tiscali.co.uk

Mark can be reached on: 01793 731843

Social

A Skittles night is being planned at RAF Fairford. We will keep you informed of dates, venues and prices.

A Ten pin bowling night at the Mega Bowl in West Swindon is also currently being discussed.

The Paintball day is still being considered.

For sale

Club clothing is now available. We can now offer a range of Polo shirts, Fleecees, 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: www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/

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

Website of the month: www.bite-back.com/

Contributions are always welcome, if you have something you want including in the next newsletter then please send it to: stevecain_diving@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.