

The Seahorse Dive Club Newsletter

March 2006

Dear Club Member,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2006. The diving scene has been fairly quiet over Christmas and the Winter months, but with Spring in sight plans for the years diving are well advanced. The usual two long week-ends have been arranged for May and September at Lyme Regis and a long weekend diving with PorthKerris Divers in Cornwall is fully booked for June. In addition, Mark Horton will be running a series of novice week-end diving trips for those wanting some easy diving. For all this years plans see Diving UK section on the club's website.

The club's AGM has been set for Saturday 18th March at the Lime Kiln pool as usual. It is hoped that you all can make it to the meeting; it is your chance to have your say, vote for committee members or put your name forward for a position on the committee. There will be a pool session before the meeting but you should aim to be in the club room for 6:45pm for a 7:00pm start. Please note that when renewing memberships for 2006/2007 new membership forms and 2006 Wavers will need to be completed. These can be downloaded from the club website at: <http://www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/> (drop-down menu top-right) and if you can have these completed prior to the AGM it would speed up the proceedings of the meeting. Full diving memberships remain at £80 for 2006/2007. We hope to see you there, please make a note in your diaries.

Don't forget that if you are going diving, either home or abroad, your trip reports and photographs can put on the club website. They are also valuable for other club members thinking of following after you.

Safe diving,

Steve

Contact: Steve Cain stevecain_diving@tiscali.co.uk

Malcolm Cole malcolm.cole@btinternet.com

Latest news

Don't forget the next dive show is LIDS 2006 at ExCel in London's docklands. The dates are 1st and 2nd April and tickets can be purchased online at: <http://www.diveshows.co.uk/> at a discount price of £7.50, a saving of £3.

Please welcome recent new members to the club; Francis Skeete and Claire Klomp.

Diving UK

The next Club long weekend diving will be over the period 5th to 8th May. At the moment the road going into Lyme Regis is under repair and it is not possible to get the RIBs down there. Mark Horton has therefore been diving out of West Bay in Dorset and it will probably mean that weekend diving will be at West Bay instead for the next few months. Please keep checking the website for the latest situation at: <http://www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/divingUK.htm>

Mark will also be running a series of easy novice weekend diving trips over the Spring and Summer for those wanting some easier diving. The dates will be:

- 15th & 16th April
- 8th & 9th July
- 2nd & 3rd September
- 21st & 22nd October

the locations will be either West Bay or Lyme Regis. Contact Mark if you want to put your name down for these trips on 01793 731843 or e-mail whitehorsediving@tiscali.co.uk

The PorthKerris trip is fully booked up for 9th to 12th June. Deposits have been paid but the balances of £66. 67 are by due by 14th April at the latest. Please make cheques out to "The Seahorse Dive Club" for the above amount and hand them to Malcolm. Dave Hall has PorthKerris Divers waver forms which need to be completed before any diving can take place with them, also, a photocopy of your latest dive from your logbook is required. Please see Dave and obtain a waiver form from him, there will also be some waver forms available at the AGM.

PorthKerris Divers also operate a RIB in addition to their hard boat. Whilst the club has not made any arrangements in booking the RIB, club members may wish to make private arrangements with the dive centre. PorthKerris Divers can be contacted on 01326 280620 or their website at: <http://www.porthkerris.com/index.htm>

One important note for those diving from the hard boat on the PorthKerris trip. Can you all please make sure that all your tanks are within calibration? if not, now is the time to get them tested. PorthKerris Divers will not fill any tanks that have expired their calibration period, and Mark Horton cannot supply tanks for refilling either. So please arrange to have your tanks within test before June.

Underwater Photography

Issue 29 of the free Underwater Photography Magazine UwP is now available at: <http://www.uwpmag.com/> features include a new Ikelite housing for the new Nikon D200 DSLR and The Making of IMAX Deep Sea 3D movie.

Whilst on the subject of movies, Into the Blue starring Paul Walker and Jessica Alba has just been released on DVD and is in the stores now.

Dive trips abroad

The club's annual Spring dive trip abroad has been arranged for 11th to 18th May with the destination being Dahab in Egypt. Dahab offers easy shore diving with some spectacular dive sites such as the Canyon, Bells and of course the infamous Blue Hole. Full details are on the club's website at: <http://www.seahorsediveclub.co.uk/travel.htm>

Briefly, the details are: accommodation will be the Dahab Hilton 5 star hotel, 6 days diving with Sinai Divers based at the hotel. An extra free dive per day on the house reef and free Nitrox (EAN32) for the week are included in the package. The total cost will be £572 inclusive of diving (excluding visa) on a B&B twin-share basis. Single supplements are £91 for the week.

If you would like to go then please contact Steve Cain on 01249 445069 or e-mail stevecain_diving@tiscali.co.uk There are five names down so far.

Aircraft seats are filling up rapidly, so you will have to be quick if you want to go.



The Blue Hole



Dahab coastline



Dahab Seafront

Looking further forward to 2007, Phil Green and Mark Horton are starting to make plans for a long weekend or week's diving at the Normandy WW2 landing sites. The planning is at an early stage, but provisional booking with a dive boat needs to be made within the next month or so. The level of interest needs to be initially established and if sufficient, dates and costs can be investigated. If this would interest you then please contact Mark or Phil ASAP.

Mark can be e-mailed at: whitehorsediving@tiscali.co.uk

Phil can be e-mailed at: philgreen@fsmail.net

Courses and Training

Nothing planned at the current time but if you are interested in any courses then contact Mark or Jason.

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

Mark can be reached on: 01793 731843

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

Social

Tony has arranged a Skittles night for club members and guests for Friday 10th March, the venue is the White Hart in Wroughton. There has been a good response so far with over 20 people interested. This event is being paid for out of club funds, so it isn't going to cost you anything apart from drinks. If you haven't got your name down but would like to go then contact Tony on 01793 849864 or by email: anthony.curtis5@btopenworld.com The room can accommodate a maximum of 50 people, so there are plenty of places still available.

If you have any ideas for social activities then drop Lesley an e-mail at: lesley@lskeats.fsnet.co.uk

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.reefrainforest.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.