



# Newsletter

## November '07

A few snippets of recent events and a taste of what's to come if you have anything to report let us know

Congratulations to Dave on passing his Theory Instructor assessment , this will clearly help with all the training we have.

Are you interested in becoming an Instructor, if so see Roger, the club can assist with the costs of Instructor courses

Also Congratulations to Jenny, Natalie and Richard for passing their Ocean Diver.

Upcoming events

As well as the usual dives in Calvert, the Blue Lagoon and Stoney Cove listed below you can book up for something different

### **Christmas Curry and Beer**

As is traditional at this time we will be going for a Christmas Curry and a Beer, the venue is still to be agreed but will be in Buckingham, probably starting in the Whale at 7.30 on the 12<sup>th</sup> December following our trip to Stoney



### **Club Polo and Sweat Shirts**

I will be ordering more shirts next month, so let me know if you require any, sizes xs to xxl £10.50 for a polo shirt £11 for a sweat shirt

### **Back to School**

Training sessions continue for Ocean Diver, if you have any training needs for Ocean, Sports or Dive Leader, speak to Andy Winnett (07773 284 799)

Nitrox course for Sports and Ocean. As you know Nitrox is now available in the new Ocean diver Course, for any existing divers there is a short course available. Let Roger know and we can organise it to meet the majority need.

### **British Diving**

So how was Egypt ?

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Fantastic, warm water, you can see for ever and so many fish!!! You missed out on a brilliant holiday with superb diving.

You're off to Weymouth this weekend? Are you mad??

Well yes but the waters still warm – at least 14 degrees, there will be loads of fish and stuff.

No really- it'll good, its good to get back to reality, you can't beat British diving.

So I walk away still trying to convince myself signing up for Weymouth in November was a good idea.

On Saturday morning I wake up after spending the previous evening drinking beer and eating curry (another diving tradition). Looking out the hotel window into the harbour the sea is calm but the weather is overcast. Ah well this is England.

After the obligatory bacon sandwich – chewed into very small bits ( well you cant be too careful, it may have to pass through my reg!!! ) we put the kit together and take our places on the boat.

As we drop off the back of the boat and hit the water I'm still telling myself it is a good idea. After a slight alteration to buoyancy we drop onto the wreck of the landing craft, well I think it's that's what it is as the vis is about 3- 4 metres before we kick it up. Swimming round the wreck and off the bombardian we even see some small dull coloured fish. I keep telling myself I'm having a good time. Its like Egypt but different- yeah right ! Back on the boat amid cries of “did you see” and “that was brilliant” I'm looking forward to a cup of tea to cheer myself up.

So we're on our way to the second dive- The Spaniard. Its not been dived today and the vis should be good. I drop off the back of the boat down the shot and onto the wreck. I'm diving as part of a three. We swim along the wall and onto another wreck. My buddies sign OK and off we go. I look away into the wreck and then back at my buddies, we carry on swimming .I'm having a good time, it's good to be in the water.

I look at my buddies again and realise that I'm with the wrong team. BUGGER!! I know they'll be looking for me so I look around for a minute whilst deploying my DSMB and then surface.

On the surface my buddies are looking for me, when they confirm I'm OK I tell them to carry on the dive without me as my SMB has decided to tie its self in knots.

So after 23 minutes and with 180 BAR in my tank I climb back on the boat a very grumpy diver. Sitting on deck I'm feeling very sorry for myself trying to untangle my SMB wishing I was back in Egypt.

Suddenly someone shouts “Dolphins”. As we look across the harbour we can see two separate pods of dolphins one with a baby leaping out of the water. Wow, fantastic everyone is watching their acrobatics-.

When everyone's out of the water the skipper steers the boat in their direction and asks who wants to swim with the dolphins.

After a bit of soul searching – well they are in open water and if they don't want us to be there they can always swim off into the open sea I decide to jump in.

After much splashing to attract their attention they suddenly appear in the water near us. They leap out of the water and then swim underneath us clicking and whistling.

They seem almost close enough to touch. The feeling of being in the water with them is superb, fantastic – (I've run out of words(-not at all like me!!))

After spending what seemed forever but still not long enough we climb back on the boat as they make their way out to sea.

Everyone's happy and talking excitedly about the dolphins and the brilliant days diving. Back to the café for another bacon roll and a cup of tea.

So Egypt was superb but British diving is some times even better. You never know what you're going to see.

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So next time you get the offer of a dive take a chance, pack your thermals, you don't know what you're missing .

Andy W

If you have any comments or articles for the next newsletter, let me have them, also if you are organising any dives let me know and I can add them to the list

Roger 07802 765 366

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