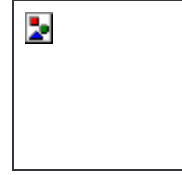




Crud



Late breaking News 2 Club members win at BSOU splash-in. Club rewiring started, thanks to John Hart

Where is SASAC going???

Improved Club House, better Boat, a pool that doesn't leak, more diving??? These are all questions that have to be addressed to encourage the club to grow and prosper. A lottery grant will help with some of these issues but how the club functions is very much down to those people in it! There are quite a lot of areas to look at and to help keep us on target the committee feel it would be a good idea to enter the Hinke competition run by BSAC, next year. One of the main problems we think we have is communications. This is the number one on the hit list to try to do something about. Ideally we would like CRUD to come out at least once every two months and to carry as much information about forthcoming events. The last issue was out in the last week of April so we're a couple of weeks behind but it's a vast improvement on the once in 1996! Of course this will only work if those people organising activities let the committee know so we can pass the information on. There will also be a "Future Events" white boards with the main events listed as much in advance as possible. Also if anyone would like to contribute to writing or editing Crud they'd be more than welcome!! As you will see later in this edition we also plan to include small reports on people's travels - so scribble down a few lines and send it in. One of the first improvements will be to build on Howard's phone list to include more information that may be helpful to know when going diving.. Dive qualifications, at the moment, are only recorded in the minutes of committee meetings and this is hardly convenient to most people! These together with some of the more important additional skills and the ability to tow a boat will be added to the 'phone' list. To do this however we need your input. Please fill out the little slip at the end of this newsletter and return it to Nige or Howard. Whilst on the subject of the phone list Howard is planning to add mobile numbers to the phone list. If you would rather your number did not appear please inform Howard asap.

Diving Events

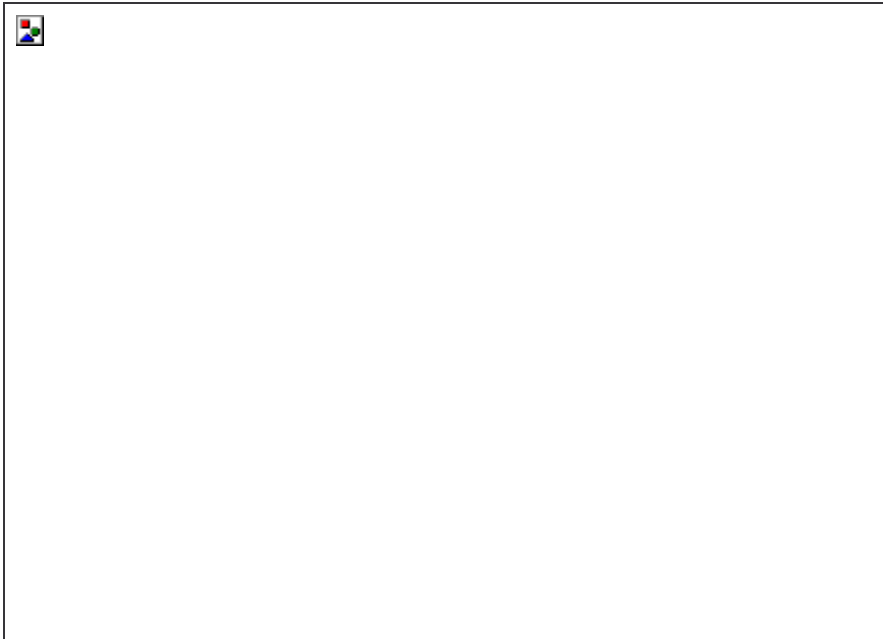
For a long time the club hasn't had a formalised Branch Dive plan. This is part of BSAC's guidelines and it has been pointed out to Nige that this might help get the Novice divers to get their Sports Diver qualification quicker. As some of you may have heard the first trip to Swanage did not run totally smoothly and there were several problems as nobody really knew what was meant to be going on. A key message from this is, it is important that we take the effort to make sure everyone has a clear understanding of what will happen during these trips. If everyone starts off with a common set of goals / understanding for the trip this should lead to a much more fun, trouble free weekend. However diving is not always straight forward if problems do occur or plans have to be rearranged please support and work with the organiser. This is by far the easiest and quickest way to resolve them to most people's advantage.

In general these trips will be organised as branch training activities. As such it is important to attract a wide range of divers. Over the course of the trip trainees should reasonably expect to carry out a number of training dives to build up their skills and experience. However it should also be expected that when the conditions allow the more experienced divers may well organise a dive during the trip which will challenge them. During this dive it may not be possible for the trainees to dive however they should be ready for the return of the experienced divers to allow a prompt turnaround, for the follow up training dives.

Hope Springs Eternal!

by Steve Gore

Well, not quite, but more correctly, Ginny Springs eternal. For the uninitiated, Ginny Springs is in northern Florida, and I was over there in March of this year to do a cave diving course in the crystal clear warm waters of the springs. The course, run by National Speological Society Cave Diving Section (NSS CDS) lasted two days, and included four hours of theory, four dives, a written exam, and some dry run practical work. To start with we stayed dry using a car park to learn about line laying, & recovery. We walked the course with open eyes, and it took 1 minute. Did it again with eyes closed, and it took 5 minutes!! A salutary lesson about how disorientated you can get. Then it was time to get wet and practise all this in a cave, maximum depth of 18 metres, with a 1 knot flow, water of 25 degrees C and visibility.... it was gin clear, as far as you could see.



We also practised different methods of moving around in a cave, trying not to disturb the sediments etc. With this behind us it was time to venture further. The next dive was into the Devils Eye, a 2m by 6m slot in the river bed with a 3 knot flow coming out of it!. We took extra weights, climbed and finned down into the outflow cave, where we got out of the current in a corner. We dumped the excess lead, and set off - using the rule of thirds (use a third of the air in, a third out and keep a third for safety). After about 20 minutes, we were half a kilometre into the cave, and 28 metres down. Visibility was still clear. Coming out was a lot easier, as we had the flow behind us. We had to come out backwards, feet first finning like mad to stop the computers yelling at us. Then came the long decompression on 60% oxygen at 6 metres. Would I do it again? Would I recommend it to others? Well, I'm booking the flight to go back for more (to get the next level of training by the NSS CDS), and I learnt some things about the overhead environment, line laying and equipment configuration, which would benefit all sports divers who ever dream of setting fin inside a wreck - and who doesn't? Try it - and don't tell me you get claustrophobic - how many low vis or wreck penetration dives have you done??

Been diving on holiday recently?? Lets have a short review of the trip, the diving and the things to do and not to do. **All articles welcome!**

Forth Coming Events

- Novice Lectures start 23rd July
- Open Forum - Club Holiday 1998 1st Aug.

- Club Dive - Wittering 2/3rd Aug.
- Club Dive - Portland 16/17th Aug
- Club Dive - Selsey 30/31st Aug.
- Sports Diver Lectures start 10th Sept.
- Club Dive - tbd 20/21st Sept.
- Club Decorate (lecture room) 4/5th Oct.
- Dive Leader lectures start 29th Oct.
- Panto - Jacques & the Shotline late November

CottonMill Pool Use

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that for anyone to use the CottonMill Pool there must be either a Bronze Medallion Lifesaver or fully paid up BSAC Sports Diver present on the premises.

The 1997 SASAC Committee

the current committee was voted in at the AGM on 14/5/97 and will run the club until April 98.

As we're a large club the above 14 are only too glad to have some extra help and support to run all the various activities surrounding the club. Here's a short list of the most notable assistants:

The Dive Management Committee, DMC, are Nigel Dobinson (DO); Peter Stansfield, Pierre Leon, (assistant D.O.), Dave Ramage (Training Officer), Allan Matthews (assistant T. O.) and Steve Gore.

Terry Smith is acting as Boats Officer, backed up by Nige & Steve (strip that engine to pieces) Gore.

The "200 club" is run by Shaun Armstrong and Sarah Biggs - and apparently we haven't sold all the tickets at the moment so dig deep, tickets are still only 50p a week. Where else could you get free unlimited air and the chance to win back four times the investment each month!!!

Sarah Biggs is acting as social secretary trying to sort out some more social events, including the Dinner & Dance on Saturday 7th Feb. at the Water end Barn.

Sarah Crompton and Dave Ramage for organising the Have a Go sessions

Late breaking News: Congratulations to Peter Ladell and Peter Tatton for their successes at BSOP 1997. The "splash-in" is an annual underwater photographic competition, run by the British Society of Underwater Photographers, open to all, from those using a camera for the first time to those with more than 20 years experience. Peter Ladell won the Greenaway Trophy for the Best Overseas print and Peter Tatton won the BSOP Trophy for the Best picture taken on the day as judged by all the competitors. Well done and can we have a copy for the club??

Club Gossip

Which 2 people 'disappeared' from sight during a 5hr flight for a good 20 mins. One later reported seeing a beautiful peak???

Towing a RIB to Cornwall wasn't quite what a newly engaged couple had in mind, but one owner decided to lighten the load by claiming his car had 'broken' down. Surely this wasn't just so he and his passenger could have a 'lie' in!!

A cold Welsh night wiped the smile off a happy couple of campers as the condensation eventually dripped back down on them.

Still they put a cheery smile on the next morning drying out the ground sheet and sleeping bags in the sunshine whilst brewing up. But Oh dear what's happened to the bacon??? and why is that Magpie looking VERY pleased with itself!!

Which RIB crew used the "we're low on fuel" excuse and left the other RIB 12 miles out just because someone was in dire need of a pint!! tut tut!

Custard fans everywhere know the skin is the best bit - but who had rather clumsy fingers and put them through the (Colonel) Custard's skin just before the club holiday?

What was it squeaking (or was it a giggle?) that came from beneath a certain RIBs cover?? One late night a passer by spotted two people climbing from the RIB well after the Pubs had shut!! Who


were they and had they just added one more knock to locations they've done it in??

Which balding - not so young man, obviously used to business class travel rather upset an airline steward by grabbing a handful of his sweets?? We know we have the odd nymphomaniac in the club but a new name arrived on the scene at the club holiday cos I received a report that everybody was diving on Denise!!!

Who cancelled a trip to west Wales, only to find out that the forecast force 7 was about force 1!! :-(Bloody weathermen!!

Diving sin of the month.... Who decided to do a buddy check over the radio because they were in different boats?? Next time perhaps you should use a boat to boat channel. Rather than trying to impress the coast guards on ch67!!

Late breaking news is that a small wreck has gone missing! If anyone should see HMS Hood please let one short sighted AI know

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