



Ocean Diver Dive Club

NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 45
Month February
Year 2015

Welcome to a crisp and snowy February club newsletter! Despite the weather being a tad nippy, the diving at this time of year is usually the best of the year visibility wise, so i have been trying to get in the water as much as possible. Sadly i missed out on the trip to Chepstow due to other commitments (the dive police had her birthday!) But i have managed a quick dip in Diver's Cove which is now a tropical 4°C and with visibility of 10m according the latest report from our maddest pair of divers, Paul and Sicknote. Yes Sicknote is

back in the water! After a quick scuba review he and Paul had a lovely dive at the Cove last weekend and, once their hands and faces had thawed out enough to discuss the dive and post on Facebook, reported that visibility is at the best it has been for a year there. Jen, Matt and Stratis were down at Chepstow in the middle of the month to get Jen acclimatised to the snow for their Skiing trip this month. Visibility there is even better at about 15m and the temp is a little warmer too!

- This Month
- February Diving
- Upcoming events
- Coming THIS year... trips!
- School stuff
- And finally....



Deposits Are Due Now Please!



Weymouth April, 2015
To start the 2015 diving season off in the best way... Scallops anyone?
Only £150!!!
paul@oceandiver.co.uk

Full VIP!



Plymouth, June 13-14 2015
The wonderful Plymouth for an early summer dive weekend.
ONLY £160!!!
paul@oceandiver.co.uk



Pembrokeshire, May 2-4 2015 Another long bank holiday weekend trip. Some of the best diving in the UK.
ONLY £260!!!
paul@oceandiver.co.uk



Nemo, Feb 28th
Stratis is organising our annual Nemo trip this year. It is only just over a month away so get your money in ASAP. Only £55 and first come first served!
paul@oceandiver.co.uk



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I am pleased to report that this months club meeting was presided over by the Gweek and (unlike the greek economy) it all went off without a hitch! Thank you to all who attended for supporting him and not giving him the same abuse you give Matt and myself! A pretty poor showing from the executive committee all round really, Matt and Jen claim that skiing trips



take priority over dive club meetings, and I was away working. So it is lucky that we have some committed members like Stratis to hold the fort for us!

I am still around for the latter part of the week if anyone wants to do any midweek dives. Divers Cove is closed Monday to Wednesday but that still leaves Thursday to Sunday for diving!

We are also at both Diver's Cove and Chepstow on courses this month. Paul and Rob are on their Wreck Specialty course and would love some company on thier dives from some of you wreck experts out there. Especially on the deeper dives in chepstow where they will be suffering narcosis. Please do come along and help them with their map, penetration and line laying...





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Very importantly, we are having to change venue for the pool session for the next two months due to a conflicting booking at Caterham School. However as Stratis announced at the meeting last night, we have secured the use of Oakhyrst Grange school pool.

This is a lovely pool and the one I use to teach courses in. It has a deep end with 3m depth for those who want (or need) to practice their buoyancy control as well as a very shallow shallow end for the smaller people or the show offs with their buoyancy skills. The only drawback is that it is a lovely warm pool! We often do three or



four hour classes and are still warm when we get out. No wetsuits are needed at all! However because of this you are advised to drink lots of water to help you avoid cramps from dehydration, prior to coming to the pool. And bring a water bottle with you as well. This month in the pool we will have some discover scubas and some scuba reviews so it will be a bit busy, but we have the use of the whole pool so i think

we will find space for each other.

Next month i will obviously be running over the rescue skills that we practiced in the lake in the morning with the rescue students and correcting any little errors that may have arisen prior to Sunday's scenario day! So if you want a refresher on your rescue skills, then do please join us at the lake or in the pool later on saturday for that. I am still after deposits too from those who said they wanted to go on trips. Please note that these trips are open to non members now!



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Club Trips 2015



Weymouth, wrecks, reefs and scallops, April 1/12

To start the year off the Ocean Dive way with some wrecks, some reefs and drifting and of course some scallop hunting. Diving with Skindiver and a trip suitable for all levels of diver, as long as they have a dry suit and MB!

Cost: **ONLY £100 Each**



Pembrokeshire, Wrecks and reefs, May 2/3/4

This is our only longer UK club trip this year, sneakily taking place over the bank holiday to save you taking too many days off! Back diving with Brian again and a trip suitable to advanced divers and above.

Cost to club members: **ONLY £260 Each**



Plymouth, Wrecks and more wrecks, June 13/14

Back down to see Steve in Plymouth for some fantastic wreck dives on the Scylla, James Egan Layne and many many more! Plymouth is one of those places that you can go dive no matter what the weather throws at us. Suitable for all divers advanced open water trained and above.

Cost to club members: **ONLY £160 Each**



Nemo trip 2015, February 28th

Taking Ocean Diver club members back to Nemo for the 6th year running. Our annual winter warmer trip. Tropical waters to dive in, awesome Thai food, and usually a skiing trip home as well. All with your friends from the club, what more you you want?!

Cost to club members: **Only £55 (not including travel costs!)**



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Courses coming up.....

We are running the Wreck Specialty on February 21/22 at Diver's Cove on Saturday then off to Chepstow on Sunday for some deep wreck penetration. Do come along for the diving if you want, it would be good for Rob and Paul to have some helpful buddies to bounce ideas off.



As i said last month we are doing the Rescue course at Diver's Cove (even if Rob is still trying to avoid it with that old "ribs" excuse!) over the weekend of March 7/8. So far Rob, Kerri and Paul are all going to be learning how to save lives in diving incidents, but if anyone else wants to join them it is not too late to join the course. **Only £300**

The Deep Specialty Chepstow weekender on April 18/19 **Only £225**

Please do come along for the day if you fancy a dive, even if you have not done the course it will give you a nice introduction into what you should learn when you do take the course. And if you have already done the course a refresher never hurts and you might even learn something new. I almost always learn something new from the students or the divemasters when i teach a course!



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The next pool session

We are back in the pool on Saturday March 7th from 16.00 to 18.00

Don't forget it is free for members and only £5.00 for non members, so why not come down and have a splash and a catch up with the rest of the club.



The next club meeting

The next club meeting is Tuesday 3rd March at the Whyteleafe Tavern. Meet in the bar for a drink from 8.00pm then in the meeting room (bring your drinks with you!) for 8.30pm

Hope to see you there for a catch up!



Hope to see you diving this month!

But if you cant make it we really hope to see you at the next club meeting or in the pool, or the pub after, for drinks and a chat!

Happy Diving, from all of the committee!