



Ocean Diver Dive Club

NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 47
Month April
Year 2015

It is April, the traditional start to the UK summer diving season but, just like the changeable spring weather, April in the dive club also brings with it change.

At the Annual General Meeting of the club (which sounds really posh and exciting to me, but in reality is just another night in the pub) we had a bit of a change round with your committee. After five years of doing the secretary job for the club, which really meant making sure Matt looked after the money properly, Jen has decided to step down and take a well earned break. Matt too has handed over the responsibility of the club finances and can now concentrate on running the club properly. Sadly Becki too has stepped down from the committee, also after five years of organising trips, and

organising us! Both Becki and Jen were instrumental in helping to set up the club and will be missed on the committee, but I hope they will stick around and be diving with us for many more years to come.

But it is not all doom and gloom because to fill their shoes (and good luck with that!) Paul Pryke, Ivan Cunningham and Jackie Wylie have stepped up and will be taking over. Jackie is going to be taking over as treasurer from Matt and you can email her at

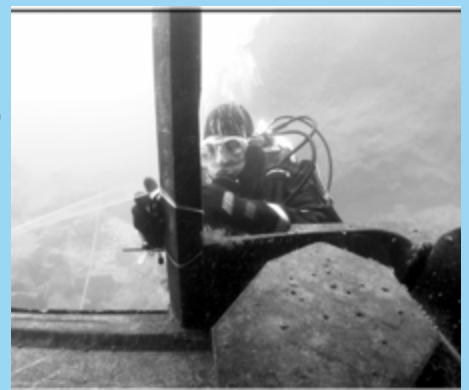
jackie@oceandiver.co.uk

Paul Pryke has been press ganged into running the dive trips for this year, with the help of the rest of the committee of course, and you can reach him at

paulpryke@oceandiver.co.uk

Ivan is taking over Becki's role on the committee as an

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



ordinary member and will be helping with setting up trips along with the other ordinary members; Stratis, Rob McSorley and Lawrence (still our longest Divemaster trainee ever!!)



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Ocean Diver Committee

Executive Committee

Member	2014/2015 Role	2015/2016 Role
Matt Wright	Treasurer	Chairman
Jen Wright	Secretary	
Paul Davies	Dive Coordinator	Secretary
Jackie Wylie		Treasurer
Paul Pryke		Dive Coordinator

Committee Ordinary Members

Ivan Cunningham	Robert McSorley
Stratis Karatzas	Lawrence Gauntlett



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A really big thank you to all those of you who turned up to the meeting and ratified all these changes. I know that to some this all seems a bit pointless to just get together and do a few dives. However, when we started the club we wanted it to be run fairly and also to make sure that there was never any doubt as to where the money was going and who was benefitting. That meant that we felt we had to have

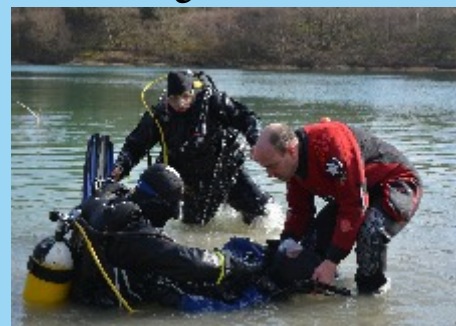


a committee of somesort, which of course means more work for the committee members but i think it is clear that the system does work well and we are getting some really good deals on dive trips for the club. And who knows, with a bit of lottery funding maybe we can have our own club boat and air compressor one day!

Jackie? Please?

March was a good month for diving, with easter egg hunts at Nemes with Rob, Paul and Becki, a fun filled rescue course, and a sneaky midweek dive to the Cove with Spencer and myself.

As you can see from the photos the rescue course was the usual mixture of fun and frolics in the glorious spring sun, interspersed with some more serious acting and rescuing!





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As I have already mentioned, the rescue course at the start of the month went off with much chaos and merriment, some panic and disaster, some controlled thought and careful planning, and even some fantastic aiming and vindictive throwing...

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to help out. For those of you who have already done the course you will appreciate this the most. The more people that come and help with the different scenarios, get



into the role playing and acting and help bring the rescue scenes to life (or death!) The better the training is for those doing the course and of course the more fun it is for everyone.

So a huge well done and round of applause for Paul 'Totally in control' Pryke, Rob 'Sicknote' McSorley, Chris 'Throw rope' Dixon and Kerri 'So, should I actually get in the water now?' Hosking, who have all successfully passed the Rescue Course and are now

fully capable of reacting promptly, safely and efficiently to someone in distress, provided they are calling for a pizza of some description! I will probably be running another Rescue course later this year to help refresh everybody's skills that may have got rusty over the summer, as well as giving the new rescue divers chance to have some more practice with first aid and diver rescues.





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Dont forget that it is the new club year, for all those of you who have not yet paid your club fees, you have to pay now please or you will lose all those lovely club benefits. The easiest way to pay is via a bank transfer to the club bank account, but please put your name and the reason for payment in if you can, or drop Jackie an email letting her know you have paid so that she can verify that the money has successfully gone in. Jackie@oceandiver.co.uk

The club bank account details are:
NatWest Bank
Sort code: 60-24-77
Account No. 19361092
The cost is £40 for individual members or £30 each for family membership.
For this small amount you get:
Free use of the pool on club sessions.
Free use of school equipment if it is not in use already by students.
A nice discount of 10% at Amphibian Sports.

Priority booking on all club trips, which of course are heavily discounted already. Discounts on course prices with the school.
And....
a free beanie hat for new members!
You will also need to fill in your membership application and club liability release form. You can either hand this in to Paul at the club meeting, or post it to:
Ocean Diver
Attn. Stratis Karatzas
130 Gipsy Hill
London
SE19 1PL

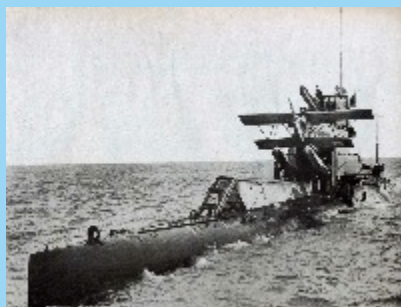


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Club Trips 2015



Weymouth, wrecks, reefs and scallops, April 11/12

Yay we are off this weekend, more details next month. Hoping to dive the Aeolian Sky, the M2 or St Dunstan amongst others.

Fingers crossed for great weather, awesome visibility and for Matt to actually see the M2!!



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

Only a couple of weeks to go now until my favorite trip of this year. We have passed our remaining spaces back to Brian now to try and fill the boat but i believe there are still a few spaces remaining. If you want to go please let me know ASAP



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**



Next Year

Paul is already starting to look into trips for next year, please dont miss the next club meetings as he will be putting some ideas forward for the club to consider. If there are any dive destinations you want him to consider then please contact him and have a chat.

Paulpryke@oceandiver.co.uk



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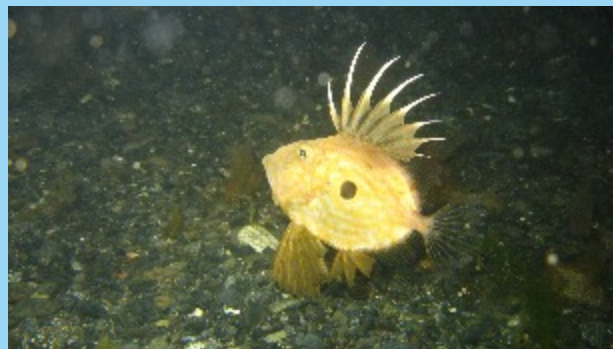
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Courses coming up.....

We are maintaining our specialty of the month theme this month with the deep course and fun weekender on the 18th and 19th of April. If you fancy a weekend of fun at Chepstow then do please come along for either



both days or just pop down for one day and have a few fun dives with the club.

We are also going to be doing some night dives over the next few weeks if anyone fancies doing the night dive specialty. A must for the Red Sea, or even the UK! Porthkerris in Cornwall gave me one of the best night dives i have ever had, although the sight of a rather tipsy Dave and Del trying to help people up the beach after the dive may have had something to do with that! Hopefully we will get back to Porthkerris soon for some more awesome beach diving and big spotty fish hunting.... No not the one in the photo, the rather bigger one that is somewhat elusive despite its size!

Let me know if you fancy joining us on the night dive or the deep dive next weekend.

paul@oceandiver.co.uk

We are running open water courses throughout April and May as well and also have Matt and Steve joining Lawrence on his DM course.... So lots of diving happening now!



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Ocean Diver Dive School

'What We Learn With Pleasure, We Never Forget'



Congratulations

To all those divers who passed courses this month, from discover scuba divers like Zac, Ewan, Corinne,

Anthea, Josh and Shad all the way to Rescue Divers like 'Sicknote', 'Throwrope', 'In control' and ... Of course not forgetting the 'dry one', Kerri... A huge well done to you all. A really fun month of diving with the school this month and a great start to the summer season for all of you. We hope to see you all underwater really soon for some relaxing fun diving, unless you are a divemaster in training of course...!

Paul@oceandiver.co.uk



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The next pool session

We are back in the pool on Saturday May 9th from 16.00 to 18.00

Back at Oakhyrst Grange School!!

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 5th May 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!