

955 Newsletter – April 2008



Welcome to April!

Spring is here – well almost, and the dive trips are starting. We have our first trip write up in this edition, thanks for Mick Peck & John Graty for the contribution. Here's hoping for great weather and loads of diving. Please feel free to email or hand Tracy any items you wish to submit for the next editions, planned diving trips, write ups of trips taken, celebrate success, sell kit etc, just send it to me at tracy.thornton@sainsburys.co.uk. All copies of the newsletter will be placed on the website.



Training Update:

The following dates are available for training on a first come first served basis, with Emma Fleet, Neale Fleet & Andrew Fletcher: 10th May 2008 & 31st May 2008 at Stoney Cove. Please let the Training Officer (Emma) know if you wish to be involved on either or both of these dates.

The Instructor team's aim this year is to increase our O2 administrator numbers. Please contact the Training Officer or Diving Officer if you wish to be included on this course. Dates & times to suit. We aim to advertise our branch of the BSAC through offering a Father's Day gift of a Try Dive...please let the Training Officer know if you are able to display a poster at your other clubs or place of work.

Committee Meeting Update:

The new committee held their first meeting on Sunday 30th March. The minutes have been issued and are available via the website or the RED BOOK. Many thanks to John Graty for joining the meeting to share his ideas on how we can attract new members. **Next Committee meeting: Sunday 20th April.**

Branch Open Forum

The plan for this year is to hold a quarterly open forum for the whole branch where everyone will have the opportunity to raise questions to the committee, give feedback or make suggestions on how to move the club forward. **The date for the first Open Forum is on Sunday 11th May in the Cripps Function room starting at 8:30pm.** If anyone has any questions that they would like to put to the committee in advance, then please contact any member of committee.

Volunteers Required!

We have been asked by Mike Billingham if BSAC 955 can help out the Scouts Camp on Sat May 17th at NSB Billing Road by running try dives from 9 am to 4 pm, 955 will be assisting with these try dives.

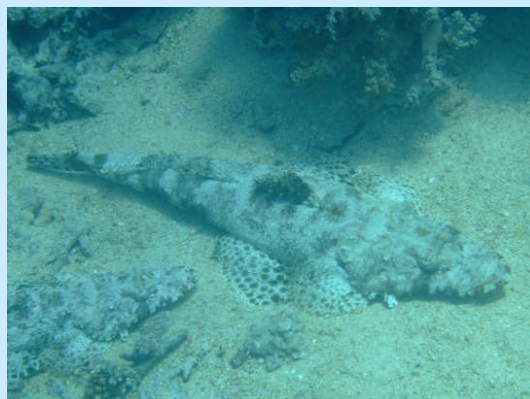
Mike Billingham has been contacted in advance & he will be organising Close Adult Supervision as required to conform to our Child Protection Policy.

Volunteers are required to support this and if you are interested and can offer your time for the full day or even a few hours, and you are happy with the above then can you please contact Dudley White asap.

Picture this!

Can you name the creature in this picture?

If you have any great pictures that you want to share with us, then email them to Tracy and we'll use them in the Newsletter or post them on the website.





Plymouth Trip – John Graty & Mick Peck

Early start, 4.00 a.m. trying to get Mick to answer the door. Eventually the car is loaded and off we go. Soon Mick's ZZZZ's in my left ear and Lynda Laplante Cold Shoulder in my right the 240 miles to Plymouth wiz by. Diversion in Plymouth to the QAB greasy spoon café, cheap, plenty of food but it tastes disgusting. Then on to Mountbatten.

At exactly 9.00 a.m. Richard Locke owner of the Kara C walks up the pontoon in his shorts saying summer is here. We discover we're the only 2 on the boat so decide that 1st dive is the Rosehill. Kitted up and on board, 25minutes later we're ready to drop over the side.

The Rosehill is flat and upside down, but with 15+ metres viz we could see it all, large conger in the boilers & Mick caught a very pregnant lobby by the anchors. (He did let it go!!). 40 minutes fly by and soon we are racing back. Blue sky, flat calm but a biting cold wind. Quick discussion and the Elk was to be the afternoon dive back on the boat for 1.30 p.m.



The Kara C ready for the off

There's a nice café at the end of the grey buildings with a conservatory which was beautifully warm. Mick orders too much food and can't eat it all, where does he put it??

In no time we're on the Elk 3 attempts to shot it but all's well and down we go, WOW viz brill again, from mid-ships we can see the whole wreck, potter around and times up. Back and changed by 3.30 and off we go to the Borrington Arms, Turnchapel for our accommodation. Booked in and back in the bar in time for the Grand National. Must be a lucky pub, everyone seems to have won. Couple of pints and off for a walk. 7.30 and a discrete table for 2, 1st choice meal sold out but 2nd o.k. good value for money. The pub has a singer as entertainment for the night, but a long day soon has us tucked up in bed.

Day 2. We wake up to another day of blue sky. Down for a full English and out of the door into a mini blizzard. It soon stops and we're down at the boat, we have 2 companions for the 1st dive which was the Persier, flat calm sea again and we're soon there. Still good viz and plenty of under water pornography from the fish life, they're at it like rabbits.



The Tide went out a bit too far!!

The journey back into the wind is again freezing but it does not take long. The other 2 divers pack up and go, and we decide to try diving the south side of the breakwater in the afternoon. This was a pleasant dive in approx 12-14 metres of water just pottering along, it's so easy when you can see.

Times up and we head for home, pack up and another 3.5 hours and we are home, sun burnt and knackered.

Who wants to come next time? We hope to do the Main and the Oregon if we can get enough divers, are you up for it, I would think it would be nearer the end of the season?

*Kara C Charters at www.kara-c.co.uk
Borrington Arms. Do a Google Search?*

