



# Worcester Divers News

April 2014

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New Members
- Club News
- Diving
- Training
- Social News
- Club Clothing
- Website
- Facebook

## New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to the club:

- Matt Coles
- Anna Coles
- Shirin Woodall
- Graham Timmins

*Matt, Anna, Shirin & Graham are PADI trained divers who are in the process of crossing over to the BSAC scheme*

- Martin Large
- Adam Johnson

*Martin and Adam are new to diving and have recently started their Ocean Diver Course*

- Tracy Fulcher
- Anthony Hitchings

*Tracy and Anthony are returning members so pleased to see them back*

## Chairman's Chat

Where have the past few months gone! I don't know about you but it has been a pretty hectic time for the committee. You would think that the winter months would be fairly quiet for a club whose main activity takes place when the weather is warmer. This winter seems to have been anything but. Since the last newsletter we have welcomed 6 new & 2 returning members; received 13 enquiries; organised try-a-dives for 22 people; run pool training, theory lessons and open water dives for Ocean Diver; trained 4 new oxygen administrators; run a Practical Rescue Management course; built a new club website; purchased 2 new oxygen kits; sorted the boat and club equipment for the forthcoming season; and squeezed in a caving trip. Phew!

However none of this would be possible, without a lot of hard work by committee members and the instructors, so I would like to say a big thank you to them. Please remember though these people also have busy lives with jobs and families, so if you feel you might be able to help I would be happy to hear from you. It could be something simple such as organising a social event, running a dive trip or writing an article for this newsletter, maybe about a diving experience.

Happy diving!

Janet Yates, Club Chairman

## Club News

As you will see from the Chairman's Chat a lot has been happening so here is a quick round up.

We have purchased 2 new oxygen kits which will be taken on club organised trips. The previous cylinders were hired from BOC so by buying our own this saves the monthly rental charge and it will be easier to get the them filled. They have already been used by members on the Oxygen Administration and Practical Rescue Management courses



### Group Try A Dives

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March Droitwich Air Cadets swapped the skies to experience the underwater world. Our try-a-dive sessions have always been popular with the cadets and this time was no different with 16 cadets & leaders taking part. A big thank you to all the instructors and members who helped out on the 2 evenings - although these sessions take a lot of organising they are also rewarding, especially as they give young people the chance to experience our sport.



### Skill Development Courses



There have recently been 2 skill development courses - Oxygen Administration and Practical Rescue Management. These have been particularly beneficial for our Sports Divers, as it has given them the chance to learn some new skills and complete modules towards Dive Leader. The Oxygen Administration Course covered topics such as basic life support systems, how to administer oxygen and some practical exercises. The PRM course comprised of classroom lessons followed by practical rescues. These took place at Gullet Quarry and each participant was given a different scenario and required to take on the role of Rescue Manager. It was a great learning opportunity but also plenty of fun - especially the role playing!



Congratulations to the following members for completing these courses:

Oxygen Administration: Josh Yates, Vince Norris, Diane Gray, Matt Coles & John Graty

Practical Rescue Management: Claire Snead, Hannah Snead, Josh Yates, Stuart Brown & Vince Norris

### Caving

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7 members swapped diving gear for caving gear to explore Freestone Box quarry near Bath. After a short scramble through the rocky entrance we spent the day exploring the many passageways to see where stone has been excavated since Roman times. The cranes and other artefacts, which have been left behind, were particularly fascinating. It was a great day and thanks to Anita, Mark and Chris for organising.





## Diving

Unfortunately the diving planned for early season was cancelled due to the weather. However on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 17 members paid a visit to Cromhall for a shakedown dive and training. This included a number of our new trainees who had their first taste of UK diving.



### Dive Calendar

The dive calendar is on the club website and if there is a dive you fancy then make sure you book with the organiser - you don't need to wait until an e mail is circulated. April looks to be a busy month with the following trips planned:

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> April Newquay. Min Dive Leader. Contact Mark Sherwood

18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April Falmouth. All Grades. Contact Janet Yates. Please note limited space Fri&Sat. Deadline for booking is this Friday.

26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> April West Bay. Min Ocean Diver. Contact Anita Sherwood.

There is also a change to the dive calendar. Simon & I are no longer able to run the trip to West Bay on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June. So the RIB is available if a member fancies organising a trip. I will be organising a dive trip the following weekend (14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> June). However I need someone to tow the RIB - if you are to do this please can you let me know by mid-April. If no one is available then I will look into booking shuttle diving at Swanage.

There are still plenty of spare weekends on the calendar. If you would like to organise a trip or discuss some ideas please contact Mark.

### Dive Vouchers - REMINDER

All members are being offered 2 FREE vouchers for diving on the club RIB saving you £20. You will still need to pay fuel, towing and other dive group charges. The vouchers are valid until end of this year and can be redeemed by handing to the dive manager. Vouchers can be collected from Mark at the pool on Thursday nights.

## Training

**Ocean Diver** The course is well underway and a number of trainees have started their open water training. The committee have decided that we will not be running any further Ocean Diver courses until the Autumn. This is so we can concentrate on making sure the current intake complete their Ocean Diver qualification and also to run training for other levels.

**Sports Diver** Details to follow for the new Sports Diver course.

**Dive Leader** Some of our sports divers have now embarked on their Dive Leader qualification. Details will be issued in due course for remaining lectures and open water training.

## Social News

There are few social activities planned but we could do with more!

**April: Doug Allan, Malvern Theatre - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 7.45pm**

Doug Allan is a renowned underwater cameraman who has been involved in well known programmes such as Blue Planet, Planet Earth and Ocean Giants. Tickets cost £15.68. If you are interested in coming please can you let me know by 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**May: BBQ/Activity Afternoon - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Club members & immediate family. Unfortunately we cannot use the Gullet Quarry so are investigating other ideas. Details to follow.

**June: An Evening with Monty Halls - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 7pm**

Cotswold BSAC is hosting this event at Brickhampton Golf Club, Cheltenham Road East, Gloucester. Tickets cost £14 and are available from <http://cotswoldbsac332.ticketsource.co.uk/>. Please let me know if you are interested (by Easter) as I might be able to get tickets directly from the organiser.

**July: Cycling Trip & BBQ, Forest of Dean - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Members, friends and family welcome for a gentle cycle ride followed by a BBQ. Contact Claire Snead

## Club Website/Facebook

A big thank you to Steve Fulcher for building the new club website. Most the website is finished and the members' area will be completed soon. This will have various club documents, minutes and the like. If you have any photos, content or comments about the website then please let Steve know.

Don't forget the club facebook page (Worcester Divers) - feel free to post a diver related message or photo. We also have a facebook group, which is a good way to get updates, so why not join it?

## Club Clothing

The club can offer clothing (hoodies, fleeces, polo shirts, hats) with the logo on. Tracy Fulcher has offered to sort the orders and will bring some samples and the catalogue to the pool. Contact Tracy if you would like to know more.