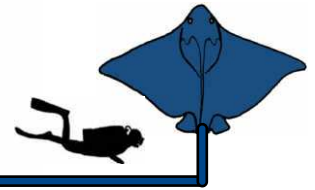


FISHYAES

Haslemere Sub Aqua Club

May 2010



Social events for your diary

Saturday 26th June – Shooting and Paella

A fun and relaxing day in wonderful Beacon Hill surroundings. This will start with an exciting target shooting competition in the afternoon, followed by a paella feast, and a bar. We will also have use of the swimming pool, so bring cosies for a refreshing dip. The cost for all this wonderment is £13 which Sandy Catnach and Tony will be collecting at the pool.

Saturday 18th Sept BBQ (To be confirmed)

Saturday 9th October – Food and Wine Evening

The Links. Part 2 of the greatly enjoyed evening last year, with great food and three wines to try with each course.

Saturday 4th December - Annual Dinner Dance



As last year, at the beautiful **Headley Park Hotel, Seaford near Bordon, Hants**. Great opportunity to stay over and enjoy an excellent breakfast in stately surroundings.

Other social events in the Pipelines:

Quiz Night

Pig racing – a fun evening betting on furry pigs!

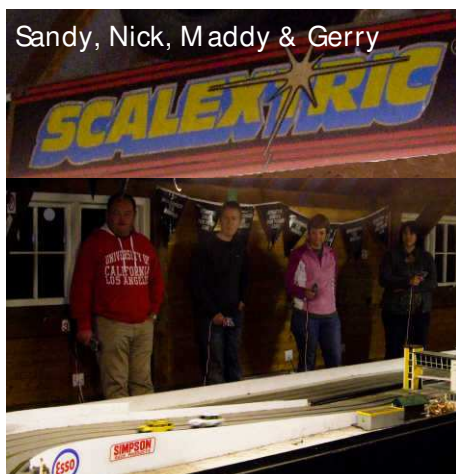
See also the summer programme for Thursday socials.

Speak to Tony or Sandy for more details on all the socials, or with more ideas, or offers of help!

Scalextric

16th April

Thanks to Paul and Suzy for organising yet another excellent racing evening, with food, drink and friendly rivalry. Team 1 took a fairly comfortable victory!



Thursday Lectures

Open Water Diver lectures have been continuing through May and into June, and finish with a revision session on 3rd June and the test on 10th June.

After this, two Thursday sessions will be dedicated to **Underwater photography** - Open to everyone.

Thurs 17th June: Introduction to taking underwater photos with a compact digital

7.45pm Theory session in the classroom with Sarah.
9.00pm - Practical session taking photos in the pool – with some coral and fish models in the pool as subjects.

Thurs 24th June: Photoshopping

7.45pm – Editing of underwater digital photographs in Photoshop with Paul.



Dive Leader Lectures - September

As soon as we return to the Herons after the summer break, we'll be running the 4 weeks of lectures for Dive Leader, (Sept 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th) followed by a revision evening on 7th Oct, then the test on 14th Oct. Anyone will be welcome to attend the DL lectures for interest, even if you're not going for the qualification, or if you did it years ago and would like a recap!

Dive Supervisor

We're also looking into running a day of Dive Supervisor lectures on a weekend day, joining forces with other clubs in the region.

SAA Open Water Instructor

Many congratulations to Nick and Steve who passed the Open Water Instructor course in April, and can now join Mike and Kim instructing and examining members in open water!



Summer Programme

On Thursdays between 22nd July and 2nd September - over the summer period, while many people are away on holiday and the pool is typically relatively empty - we will be running a programme of alternative events for Thursday evenings instead of pool training.

Thursday 15th July – Herons and Mill Tavern as usual.

Thursday 22nd July - Night dive

Leaving Selsey at 6pm to do the Mixon and Outer Mulberry or Landing Craft. Spaces are limited to 12, and these are going fast, so get in touch with Yvette as soon as possible to book a place.



Some of the Mulberry units that made it across to the Normandy beaches for the 1944 D-Day landings

Thursday 5th August – Skittles.

See Sandy Catnach for details and to book your places

Thursday 12th August – TBD

Thursday 19th August – TBD

Thursday 26 August - TBD

Thursday 2nd September - Curry night

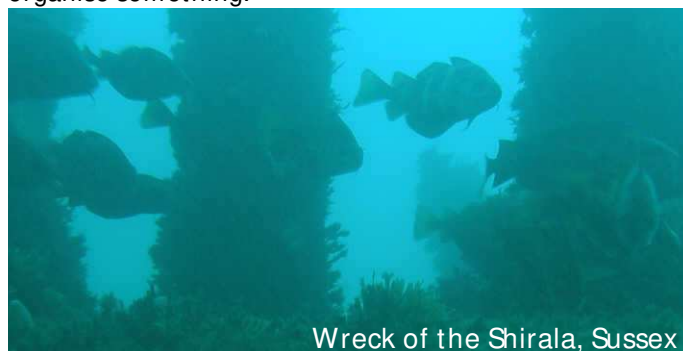
at the Shahanz, Haslemere. A relaxed social evening to complete the Summer Programme. Open to members and partners etc. Please book with Yvette.

Thursday 9th September – BACK TO THE HERONS to start Dive Leader lectures and resume pool training.

Other Summer Programme proposals include:

Visit to the Spectrum's deep pool in Guildford.
Compass and GPS navigation exercise.
Rescue scenario, including oxygen admin, on the boats.
Marine life introduction.

Let Nick know which of these you would prefer, or if you have any other ideas, and particularly if you'd like to organise something.



Wreck of the Shirala, Sussex

SAA SE regional meeting

Wednesday 2nd June - Grasshopper Inn, Westerham.

This is open to everyone, and it's worth going along to hear what's planned in the SAA regionally and nationally, and to speak to divers from other Clubs. The SAA region needs support to build up the regional training programme, which we all need.



Membership

At the April committee meeting, membership had reached 35, including 31 full diving, and 4 social members. Membership fees cover a large proportion of the Club's expenditure during the year, including SAA insurance, pool fees, and boat maintenance. Social events have also traditionally brought in vital cash for the club, while also entertaining us and giving new members an opportunity to get to know everyone.



Congratulations and thanks!

Congratulations to Liam who passed his elementary open water dive, and to Georgina who passed her open water check-out dive and is now crossed over from PADI Advanced Open Water to SAA Open Water Diver.

Open Water Training

Paul, TO, thanks all those who attended the training session at Wraysbury on 2nd May, and especially to Mike as Instructor, Sarah and Crispin as our two new Dive Leaders and Clare who braved the elements as Dive Marshal.



Wraysbury is a good training site, replacing our old favourite Horsea, which closed last year. It is less than an hour from Haslemere, just off junction 13 of the M25. www.wraysbury.ws

Club Compressor

Please remember that the compressor needs a filter change after every 100 hours, so it's very important to update the log whenever you're filling cylinders.

SAA regional courses

There are several SAA regional courses running this year, which may not be available next year. So, do tell Paul if you are interested and get yourself booked in.

Sat 19th Jun - VHF course (Nick, Liam, Yvette, Paul W, Clare, Crispin, Sarah)

Sun 27th Jun - O2 Admin (Phil).

Invaluable training - a must for everyone!

28th/ 29th Aug (Part1) and

11th/ 12th September (Part2) - Diver Rescue

(Paul, Clare).

Great for anyone going for DL, in fact great for anyone!

10th Oct - Club Instructor Upgrade

For those who qualified as AI under the old system.

23rd/ 24th Oct - RYA level 2 Powerboat course

(Bill, Paul, Clare)

27th/ 28th Nov - Club Instructor/ AI course

(Sarah, Crispin Paul, Clare).

For anyone who'd like to get involved in training.

Other possible regional courses:

Chartwork and navigation

Nitrox

Please speak to Paul if you're interested in any of these regional courses. Each time we take the club boats out each boat needs a qualified boat handler, VHF operator and oxygen administrator, so the more people we have trained in these skills the better!

Club Boats - Eagle & Cobra

All ready for a shakedown after the boat maintenance day, the first attempt was weathered off, but the boats have both been out, even if Cobra has since needed some additional work!

Cobra now has lots of space at the front where the old bench seats used to be, and the bottle rack is also being moved to the front, to improve its weight distribution and make for a more comfortable ride.

Eagle



Committee

The committee met on 19th April, and the next meeting is on Monday 14th June. Let Nick know if there's anything you think needs raising.

Diving

Mike, DO, reports: A good start to the diving season with two training days at Wraysbury Lake and two days out in Cobra, and dives on the Gascony and the Mulberries, and drifts in Bracklesham.

Unfortunately the ill-fated Cobra has been troubled with engine problems again, being looked at by our boat officers, so we have been down to one boat, the smaller Eagle, which has limited space and range.

Yvette, ADO, adds: A great dive to Gascony on Saturday April 24th. Some of us actually saw the wreck and some of us missed it but still had a good time!! Visibility was good and water temp was about 8C which wasn't too bad!

Portland 22nd May

While a small group of members had just arrived for a week on a liveaboard in the Red Sea, other members set out for a sunny Portland expedition on Saturday 22nd May, organised by Crispin. (More on this from Yvette on the back page with dives on the Binendijk and Countess.)

Cobra picking up divers from the Countess of Erne, beside Portland Harbour wall (in 2007!)



Sunday 6th June - SAA SE Regional Diving at Selsey.

Mixon and Mulberries followed by barbecue!

See back page for details.

Check the dive programme and e-mails for more dives.

Remember that all your diving needs to be approved by the DO, Mike, and follow all the SAA guidance. Insurance is only valid in this case.

FishTales

Please take **photos** of any HSAC events for future editions of FishTales. A few words to accompany them would be extremely welcome, though not compulsory!

We can also include "**FOR SALE!**" items.

Please send any contributions to Bryony.

Dives done: Portland, Sat 22 May

Yvette reports: Weather was great, sea was flat and after a little shaky start reversing Eagle onto the slipway, we got underway to the Binnedyk. Viz wasn't too great but we got the shot onto the wreck - a little too well as it turned out! Lots of big spider crabs and a pretty big wreck, great dive in spite of all the algae.

Trying to pull up the shot ended up being a bit too much so we were forced to leave it until later, and returned to Portland to change cylinders. Mike and Crispin did a great job of retrieving the line and sent it aloft whilst re-diving the Binnedyk, and this time they saw some conger as well.

Back in the harbour we dived the Countess, and the viz was excellent, apparently very unusual to be so good and the dive was lovely - we saw some amazing anemones and other small things - sorry Sarah have forgotten what that white and purple thing was [*seaslug perhaps??*], and a gorgeous fluorescent wrasse plus a school of fish settling in for the night. All in all a fantastic dive! One day I'll be able to enter and exit the water as elegantly as the others.

Unfortunately poor Russ was unable to dive it as he was feeling somewhat under the weather and luckily Mike caddged a lift for him back to the slipway with another boat as Russ later ended up in A&E with kidney stones! Not a pleasant experience for him.

We decided to abort Sunday as we were down sufficient VHF cover and Sarah was also unwell and not fit to dive which would have made putting the boat back on the trailer with 3 of us a bit too much of a challenge.

Finally managed to get Eagle into the boatshed on first attempt - won't mention the turning around beforehand though!!! Again thanks to Crispin for organizing the dives and accommodation which was fine, the bar was certainly characterful. . . . Thanks also to Mike for his ongoing patience and skill as an instructor in the joys of towing!

Haslemere Sub-Aqua Club is an active diving, training and social Club, welcoming both qualified divers and new trainees at any time throughout the year. We meet and train at The Herons Pool, Kings Road, Haslemere GU27 2QA every Thursday evening, except at Christmas, and in the summer holidays, when an alternative programme of events is organised. We organise a full programme of diving throughout the summer in the UK, as well as Club holidays abroad.

As a member of the **Sub Aqua Association**, Haslemere Sub-Aqua Club (SAA 259) follows the SAA diver training programme, leading to qualifications which are recognised world-wide. The training is designed to build confidence and enhance skills through a series of lectures, pool sessions and open water dives. Experienced instructors provide one-to-one and group tuition in a friendly environment.

www.haslemeresubaquaclub.com

info@haslemeresubaquaclub.com

To come: SAA Regional Dive & BBQ Sunday 6 June, Sussex

Pete Turner from Bordon Divers is organising the day. The idea is for divers from different SAA clubs from across the region to come and dive together. Two dive sites are planned, both popular sites, and recognised as Marine Sites of Nature Conservation Importance:

Mixon Hole - a deep scour in the sea bed at Selsey Bill. Max depth about 27m. The archaeologists tell us that it is the site of an old Roman fort which used to be at the entrance to the river which ran through Chichester a couple of thousand years ago. It has some interesting features (a drop off from 5m to 25m) and is usually the home of plenty of smooth hounds, lobsters and crabs. Fossilised shark teeth are a common find.

Mulberry Harbour left over from WW11, home to numerous fish species. Max depth 12m.

The plan is to take Pete's boat out from Selsey East Beach every hour and a half, starting at 8am, transporting divers to the Mixon Hole for the first 2 trips, and then to the Mulberry after that, until everyone there has had at least one dive.

From 6pm on there will be a barbecue on the beach.

Mike is proposing HSAC should take one of our Club boats. Please speak to him if you're interested in joining in with this event and diving with other SAA divers from the SE region.

