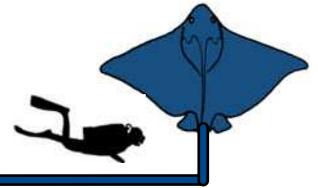


FISH-TAILS

Haslemere Sub Aqua Club

Feb 2011



Open Night

A night for future, current and past members.

Thursday 3rd March
8pm-10pm at The Herons

Everyone is warmly welcomed to come along - to help introduce new people to diving and the Club, or to mingle with old friends.

We will need lots of help on the night – whether it's with try dives, meeting and greeting, paperwork, preparing the kit or taking photographs of the event. Please let Paul Williams or Suzy know if and how you'd like to help.

Please invite friends, acquaintances and colleagues, and distribute fliers and display posters in any suitable places.

We plan to show photos and some of our diving videos, so there will be something of interest for everyone.



Lectures and Training

Lectures started on Thursday 10th February, from the beginning of the programme. They will continue each week, starting at 7.45pm.

Welcome to new trainees, Sam, Fox and Cheryl.

Congratulations to Liz and Liam who were both signed off as Open Water Divers following the trip to Swanage last year.

Diving

A varied programme of dives is now in preparation, following a series of dive planning sessions run by Mike on the January Thursday evenings before pool training.

Diving will begin with some training and shakedown sessions at an inland site, followed by a trip to Bracklesham, which offers a range of lovely dives to start the season at sea.

Return to Porthkerris



Following the great success of last year's club weekend to Porthkerris in Cornwall, Paul and Clare are running a repeat trip for 2011 - from Friday 19th to Monday 22nd August – staying for as long as you like, with up to 4 days of diving. Last year great diving was had by all. The simplicity and proximity of boat diving (around the famous Manacles) means that there's plenty of time back on the shore for any non-diving family. There is shore diving on the doorstep and that's lovely too. The marine life is beautiful, and the Cornish coastline stunning.

As last year, there will be a mix of people in B&B and camping (this year camping down by the shore very near the dive shop and shower block.)

For those of you who might be interested and have not been before more information is available at the Porthkerris divers website at <http://porthkerris.com>.

As with last year we hope to cater for diving at any qualification level, with the first boat dive of the day for club divers and above, and the second boat dive to include everyone we can (depending on numbers of instructors and dive leaders). We then also have the option of a third dive straight off the shore or even a night dive.

Boathandling



As the weather hopefully turns towards spring in March, we will be going out to the sea to check out the boats after their winter storage and maintenance and get some boathandling practice.

Social events

Dinner Dance on December 4th was again a huge success, thanks to the social team, Tony and Sandy. Great food, live band, dancing, raffle, and festive portrait photos taken by Paul beside the Christmas tree in the Headley Park Hotel hallway.



Food and Wine - The Links in Liphook on 5th Feb was the setting for another very enjoyable evening for around 40 members, family and friends. Each of the three courses of dinner was accompanied by different wines introduced by a wine expert who enthusiastically explained the origins and making of each.



Clay pigeon shoot - Let Tony know asap if you're interested in a shoot at Medstead, 10am – 1pm. The cost is £35 including 25 cartridges, clays and expert tuition.

Other social events in the pipelines:

Quiz night, possibly March. Paella & shooting, July BBQ, Aug. Scalextric, Autumn. Pig racing, Oct.

SAA SE regional courses

Pete Turner from Bordon SAC has done a tremendous job organising SAA courses in recent years, particularly while the Regional Coordinator, Ian Pilling, has been working abroad. Unfortunately, Pete has been unwell over the winter, and is unable to do the planned courses, probably until March. Another SAA SE member is trying to fill some of the gap, calling on any Open Water Instructors to come forward to help teach. There were no courses in January, but we hope things will return to normal soon. Initial plans include:

Oxygen Admin - Possibly February

Nitrox - Possibly February.

Boat Handling - 19/20 March.

Diver Rescue Practicals - 02/03 April.

Boathandling

Congratulations to Paul, Clare, Michael H, Liz, Liam and Tony who all passed the RYA Level 2 boathandling course at the end of last year. This was an excellent course, run by a diver, and covered the specific requirements of operating dive boats, including safely picking up divers from the water after a dive. This means we now have four more members who have all three of the skills required among the divers providing surface cover for dives on the club boats (oxygen admin, boathandling and radio operation).



Training Records

Mike and Paul plan to carry out an update of training records (the Club's and individual members'). So, trainees and recently qualified divers, please have your record books and dive logs at the ready!

For Sale

Second Hand Diving Kit

If you're interested in kit for sale from previous club members, Kath, Flo, or Jilly, please get in touch with Michael for contact details.

Any kit advertised in FishTales has not been checked by HSAC, so it's your responsibility to check it's in good working order. You're strongly recommended to have any second hand kit professionally checked and serviced before using it.

Waitrose Green Tokens

HSAC will be one of the charities/clubs in Haslemere Waitrose green token scheme in March. Well done Michael for organising this, to support purchase of oxygen equipment. Do go into Waitrose as often as you can during March and put the green tokens you're given at the checkout into the HSAC box! The £1,000 available each month is divided between the three chosen causes in proportion to the tokens in their respective boxes.



AGM and Committee

The AGM at the end of last year was again held at the Liphook Junior School - many thanks to Clare for the venue. Members heard reports on the past year and voted in the current Committee:

Chairman - Suzy	Secretary - Liz
Treasurer - Liam	Membership - Michael H
Diving Officer - Mike H	Assistant DO - Yvette
Training Officer - Paul W	Assistant TO - Clare & Steve B
Pool Equipment - Phil	Boat Equipment - Steve T
Social - Tony and Sandy	FishTales - Bryony

Thanks and congratulations to Liam, whose success in training and valued contributions to the Club were recognised in winning HSAC's novice of the year award at the AGM.

The Committee last met on 24th January, and will meet again on 28th March. Tell Suzy if there's anything you think needs discussing.

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

Pool Sessions

Thanks to all those involved in putting on some interesting pool sessions last year, getting more members into the water on Thursday evenings. Do continue to make use of the pool time - to swim and keep fit, or to practice scuba skills, or underwater photography techniques etc.

Thanks to Clare who saved the day by negotiating the 2011 pool fee increase back down to club rates.

Pool Closure No pool session on **28 April** (Thursday before Easter).

Equipment

There will be a **boat maintenance day** soon to finish off outstanding work on the boats, and to give an introduction to operating the compressor. Thanks to our equipment officers, past and present, for all their work on the boats and trailers over the winter.

The boats are insured against accidental damage, theft, and (when being used as a boat) third party liability. The trailers have to be immobilised with a wheel clamp when unattended. Anyone towing the boats needs to make sure their car insurance includes third party liability cover when towing.

Cylinder Testing

Diving cylinders need to be tested every 2½ years. Paul has kindly offered to take club and members' cylinders off for test. Do check your cylinders and let him know immediately if you have any you'd like tested, and we may be able to get a bulk discount.

Website, FishTales & Photos

Thanks to Russ for updating the Club website and setting up a facebook page.

We need more photos!!!

Suzy is collecting HSAC-related photos to make a display for the Open Night - showing the variety of club activities. These can also then be used in FishTales, on our website and new leaflets etc.

PLEASE SEND ANY PHOTOS TO SUZY

