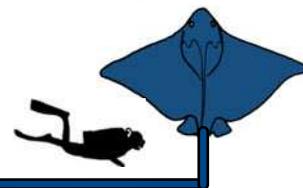


FISHY

Haslemere Sub Aqua Club

Sept 2011



Porthkerris

The picture-postcard Cornish bay at Porthkerris welcomed us back in August with blue skies and calm seas.



The second dive on Saturday was clear and full of wildlife and for most of us relaxed and uneventful. On surfacing however, we were met not by the familiar Dave and his dog on the hardboat Celtic Kitten but by strangers on RIBs. As they helped us on board they gently told us that one of our group had experienced a problem and needed evacuation.



Such is the speed and efficiency of the emergency services when they swing into action that by the time the rest of us had surfaced from our dive, Clare had already been airlifted off to hospital. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Dave and the Porthkerris crew and others who came on board to help in the incident; to the coastguard, helicopter crew, the lifeboat and other boats in the area who all rallied round to help. Thanks also go to Truro hospital and DDRC at Plymouth, and the chamber at Chichester who all looked after Clare.

But, most of all we are immensely proud of Clare and Paul, who, on identifying there was a problem part way through their dive, stayed calm and conducted a controlled ascent to the surface, after which Paul rescued Clare onto the boat with Dave's help, administered oxygen-assisted first aid, then watched as she was winched up to the helicopter. Our thoughts are with them now in tackling the previously unknown medical condition which may have been a factor in the pulmonary problem Clare experienced on the dive - our fond wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

AGM - Thurs 24 November

The AGM will be on Thursday 24th November at 7pm at Bohunt School, Liphook. No Herons pool session! The committee met on 27th June and 4th October. Everyone on the Committee stands down each year. Please volunteer if you're interested in standing for 2012.

Christmas break - the last Herons session for 2011 will be 15 Dec, and we'll start again on 12 Jan 2012.

Summer Programme

Thanks to Suzy for planning for a series of diving related events which made up the Club's Summer Programme while we were away from the Herons.

Wed 27 July - Yvette's Wraysbury **night dive**.

Thurs 4 Aug - Michael and Bryony ran a refresher session on **oxygen administration**, with club members familiarising themselves with the oxygen equipment and acting out an emergency scenario. Following this session, Michael circulated an oxygen briefing, diver help card and incident check-list which were introduced in the training.

Thurs 11 Aug - Liam, Liz and Suzy organised a session in the **4m deep pool at the Spectrum** in Guildford, a great place to practice rescue, ascent and SMB skills.

Thurs 18 Aug was left free as so many members were off to **Cornwall** the following day.

Thurs 25 August - Steve and Phil organised a lesson on bottle filling using the **club compressor**. Assembling Steve's new portable barbecue seemed much more complicated than the compressor instructions, but once both had been mastered, Sandy's home-made burgers and an Yvette speciality cake helped us celebrate Mike's 500th dive in style!



Thurs 1 Sept - Mike and Suzy organised an excellent **GPS navigation training** session which had us all tracking round the recreation ground as darkness fell in search of Mike's clues.

Thanks to everyone for organising and coming along and making it a very successful and enjoyable series of Summer Programme training sessions, frequently rounded off beautifully with a pint in the Mill Tavern.

July Diving

Yvette reports: We met up at Eastney ready to go at 8.30am and were soon heading for the U1195. The coordinates were spot on, the weather was excellent and the tide was good.



Liz had her first 30m dive and she and Steve seemed to enjoy themselves as did Michael and Russ. Mike, Liam and I went down and at first the viz looked a bit bad but once we descended it cleared quite a lot. We used Wight Divers' shot and landed straight on the wreck; an excellent dive, with the propeller clearly visible, as well as most of the shell of the submarine. Quite a bit of sea life, huge school of bib shone a pretty silver in the torch beams, plus a couple of congers. The water was fab, zero current so almost like being in a lake as we drifted around the wreck having a good explore.

The sea swell picked up quite a bit and unfortunately there were several cases of sea sickness amongst the troops which reduced us for the next dive. We had planned a drift over the Britsum but felt it was a tad rough so we opted for Bracklesham Bay where we discovered a little wreck in about 15m, probably a survey boat. The shot was expertly placed right on the wreck however Steve and Russ had a bit of a swim. Mike, Liz and I went down next and the current had picked up so we had to pull ourselves down. However once in the lee of the wreck we were very sheltered and had a good look around. Saw a massive conger and another one, again some big shoals of bib and pollack plus for my first time ever Mike found a group of little prawns hiding in a cavity in the wreck. They were so sweet waving their antennae and legs at us, almost like a mini disco.

Liz and Liam had a go practising their DSMBs. A lovely little wreck that can be dived at pretty much any time and a change from Mulberries. All in all a great day out after all the bad weather we have had this year.



Wraysbury Night Dive

As part of the Summer Programme, Yvette organised a trip to the inland Wraysbury Lake. Congratulations to Liam for doing a successful air share, and to Fox who did a surface swim and retrieval by torch light! Thanks to Mike for doing the assessments, and for also taking Phil and Liz in for a practice in vertical air-sharing. Meanwhile, Michael H and Yvette had a bit of swim, but despite thickening murk and darkness, they managed to find the boat, cargo container and car. Back to The Perseverance to eat and drink before driving home.

Social



Clay Shoot 19 June

Thanks to Tony for another excellent Clay Shoot with very good tutors, fine weather and followed by a lovely Sunday lunch in the Crown in Alton.



Barbecue 3rd Sept

Thanks to Sandy for hosting another summer barbecue at her house, and to everyone who provided food and drink! Great event, while also making a bit for the club.

Next on the social calendar:

Quiz Night Saturday 12 November 7pm

Liphook Village Hall, with curry (including veggie). All for just £15 - please book your places and pay Tony.

Christmas Dinner Dance Saturday 3 December

Now at Devil's Punchbowl Hotel, Hindhead. Tickets from Sandy. Thanks to Yvette for finding lovely raffle prizes!

Targeting Training Needs

Thursday 8th September saw the Club return to the Herons after the successful Summer Programme.

On Thursday 15th September Paul organised a review evening, gathering trainees of all levels and instructors together to assess and update the training records so we can target our training activities and help everyone to achieve the dive qualifications ahead of them. Pool training will continue through the winter, so if you're available to help with training, please speak to Paul.

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.

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