

# Newsletter



2 June 2009

## Common Renewal Date for BSAC Subs

The Common Renewal Date for BSAC subs is upon us and it is imperative that ALL subs due are paid as quickly as possible. There is still time to fill in a Direct Debit form, or otherwise the subs can be paid either by cash or by cheque made payable to "BSAC".

PLEASE see me at the club to get your BSAC membership renewed.

Diane

## Open Water Training

**When doing any open water training please don't forget to show your appreciation to the instructors by making a donation towards air fills or dive site fees. Obviously, this is a voluntary contribution but remember, any training is only possible by the instructors giving freely of their time. It is also a club tradition that travel costs are shared when people travel to dive sites together.**

## A message from John Evans ...

I spoke to Justine on Tuesday about dive trips for **next year** and I have a list of potential dive sites diving from hard boats. I am trying to look at trips so that there should be something for everyone but as they are for next year there is plenty of time to get experience and qualified if there is something that is of particular interest. Could you circulate this information to members of the club to see if there is any interest. If there is sufficient interest, then I will collate prices and possible dates and, if agreeable, then provisional bookings could be made. I have to interview students this Tuesday but will hopefully make it to the club and will bring further information with me about the different places.

Regards  
John

## Scubadviser.com

A group of British diver friends, after some bad experiences, are putting together for the diving community reviews of good and bad dive centres/shops/liveaboards. This is so that when divers want to check out dive centres, they can see what other divers' experiences have been. This a safe sport, but some dive centres are cutting corners on equipment, number of divers to Divemaster, etc.

To help go with the good ones and avoid the bad, why not add your experiences to their web site.

I distributed cards giving details of the web site last Tuesday, but if you missed out or want another card as a reminder, I still have some left.

Linda.

## Congratulations!!!

This is the first Newsletter for a while so it is a very belated "Congratulations" to Chris and Kelly on the birth of baby Seth. Another prospective member for the club?????

Life will never be the same again!!!

## RED SEA TRIP!!

On 14 April, 10 of us set off for a dive trip to Dahab, Red Sea. Rob Taylor was unfortunately unable to dive as his eye is still healing after a detached retina, so he did Yoga instead! We booked a 5 day dive package with Reef2000 who are based at the Bedouin Moon and had a great time. The journey was good apart from the meals service. Somehow, Thomson had lost the meal bookings I had made and paid for but, bizarrely, decided to give David P a meal while telling the rest of us—"tough, no food" on both flights and "we've run out of sandwiches" on the return flight! Be warned—this is not uncommon if you book meals after you book the flights.

The main downside was all the rubbish along nearly every street, on the beaches and anywhere there was a fence—possibly a result of the Mayor of Dahab not getting a big enough bribe from the waste removal company! Apart from the rubbish, everything else was great (although Jonny thinks it is not a patch on Hurghada).

The heat obviously got to some of us— it will be quite a while before we forget Dave R putting his wet-suit on back to front—an interesting challenge, give it a go for a laugh—followed soon after by me putting my boots on the wrong feet—it wasn't until Ann commented on the zips being in a different position on her boots that I realised why my feet were uncomfortable! I think Thomas could have been a little bit more polite about this error!! A few days later Jonny forgot to put his kit in the jeep and didn't realise until we got to the dive site.

As well as some fantastic dives we went quad biking on the last evening—people in front OK, people close behind, blinded by the dust—people at the back (me) visibility good!

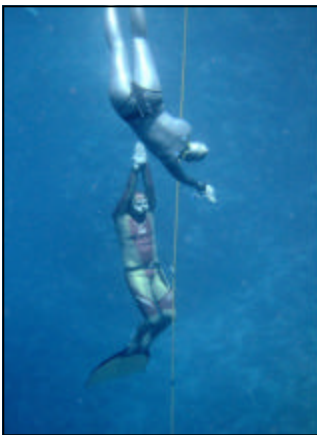
Pat stunned lots of people (especially the dive leaders) by cycling from the hotel to several of our dive sites—nearly dropping dead from dehydration at one point.

Highlights—lots!!!! Swimming through the Blue Hole looking at Free Divers—maniacs all of them! Going down the Canyon and looking up to see a narrow gap back up to the blue. Being followed by cornetfish along a massive wall. Devil fish, scorpion fish, porcupine fish, lots of fish—especially on the early morning dive when there were large mixed shoals.

Would we go back—yes (apart from Jonny)!!!

Between us we took some great photographs and David P also managed some amazing bits of video—a selection will be up on the web site soon. Look out for David's video of the octopus!!

*Linda*



Free Divers in the Blue Hole

This is what we came for ....



But we enjoyed this as well !!