



WHAT'S BUBBLING

Issue 25: January 2006
The Magazine of Ealing Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC 514)
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Firstly, a very **Happy New Year** to all What's Bubbling readers. May 2006 bring all that you wish for.

CONGRATULATIONS . . . CONGRATULATIONS . . . CONGRATULATIONS

A round-up of new diving qualifications gained in 2005. Impressive stuff! As always, help is at hand from either Dominic Watts (DO) or Greg Taylor (TO) if you're wanting to further your qualifications.

Ocean Divers:

Adrian Duggleby; Val Haywood; Lize Ferreira; Tony Quish; Remko Van Duren; Peter Dickel; Jane Canavan

Sports Divers:

James Lafferty; Alex Philpott; Becca Weston; Adrian Duggleby

Dive Leaders:

Rob Killick; David Broad; Robin Stevens; Becca Weston

Seamanship Specialist

Craig Burrell

Advanced Divers:

Margarita Lewis; Keith Lewis; Jackie Rasbach

Open Water Instructors:

David Watkiss; Rob Willin; Robert Killick

Advanced Instructors:

Nigel Ealand; Craig Burrell.

NEW MEMBERS



TIRATH RANA, Trainee

I'm Tirath Rana, married with three lovely girls. My interests/hobbies are spending time with my family, travelling and now learning to dive. I have only just recently joined the diving Club and have no previous experience. To be honest I only got interested in diving by chance; thanks to my neighbour Jimmy who is a qualified diving instructor. One weekend he asked me to join him to help teach some children to swim, which I must say I found very rewarding. Afterwards he asked me if I wanted to have a go at diving in the pool. From that moment I realised how much I enjoyed it and that this was something I really wanted to do. The rest as they say is history



MATTHEW JACKSON, Trainee

I took up diving because I wanted to do something other than football to change myself. I am also a member of the Air Training Corps. I am a regional marksman and enjoy going flying.



NATASHA BIGLIN, Trainee

I took up diving because I grew up in a diving environment and was always in it. My hobbies also include dancing, gymnastics and now diving. Web Ed - Natasha joins us with her mum, Janet (see below) and was an "ESAC baby". Born while her parents were diving members. She has been on many of the Club's diving trips over years. The big difference now is that she will not have to wait for the kiddies boat ride to have ago in the Club's boats...



JANET BIGLIN, Trainee

Web Ed - This is the second time Janet has learnt to dive and this time she joins us with Natasha.

Janet and I have dived together many times in the past. We have also enjoyed motorbike holidays, getting lost in France, and she has done a crossword while pillion riding up a rather large mountain in Wales. The last time we dived together we had difficulty finding an air cylinder that matched Janet's breathing rate...yes Janet is the ultimate big breather!



DANIELLA McMANAMON, Trainee

Where do I start...ok about me...

I'm a student at a sixth form college; schoolwork was running my life (as the teachers believe alumni have no social life outside of school, thus giving us mountains to do). I did Irish dancing up until last year, but time was at a minimum so I had to give it up. I realised that I needed a new hobby when I started getting out of breath walking upstairs and began watching 'countdown' on the telly! I love the sea, (evidence: swimming in the Atlantic, off the west coast of Ireland where I'm from...mid-winter!). So I thought what better way to feed this addiction than to scuba dive, as the book boasts: 'you haven't lived until you have seen the beautiful depths for yourself'. So... here I am. (Photo of me next to the sea!)

Daniella x x x x x

BERNI McMANAMON, Trainee

Web Ed - This is the second time Bernie has been a member. Unfortunately we don't have a picture, but then Daniella above is the pretty one in the family!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2005

Thank you to everyone who attending the AGM last month, and especially thank you to last year's Committee who have done a great job in not only helping to steer the Club to a massive 1246 dives this year, but to help make it a social Club who has increasing membership, purchased new equipment, maintained old equipment and planned for the Club's financial future.

You would also have seen the great deal of work that **Nigel Ealand and Simon Yardley** have put into developing the website. This is not only how we sell ESAC to the world, but it now has a secure members' area which is a great source of information for all, to help with dive planning, finding a site, picking the right tide etc. The site also has the contact details of all your diving buddies, and flags to instructors your current training needs.

The Committee is also using the website to manage the Club. This will greatly reduce the amount of administration Committee members have to perform and allow them to concentrate on the real job. ensuring we all get the most out of the Club and going diving.

Could you all please visit the secure members section of the website. (Click on members login - top left of ESAC home page) <http://www.esac.org.uk>

In there please check that we have entered your personal information correctly, (Under 'Membership Details' - click on *Your Personal details Update*) Your details are saved under your membership number (eg A722550) please check this is correct, reporting any errors to Nigel. Also please check your training record, (Under 'Training' - click on *Personal training record update*).

Please note that the database searches on blanks. You may be an Advanced Diver but until you have completed the "Ocean diver course completed" box, you will get emails telling you that ocean diver training is being run. If you have completed qualifications under the old training scheme (i.e. Club Diver) please complete just the "Ocean diver course completed" box with the correct date and DO sign off. Note that the information you submit on the training database does not get updated to the membership list immediately, it has to be verified by the Diving Officer.

If you have any questions about completing your training record, please contact Dominic Watts - Your new Diving Officer, Diving.Officer@ESAC.org.uk or 07711-747495.

If you have any web site queries please contact Nigel Ealand, nigel.ealand@blueyonder.co.uk or 0208-582-0991.

Any other queries please contact me. (No circular emails please - save everyone else's inbox).

Craig Burrell

TIM BIGLIN AWARD 2005 – JAMES ANDERSON

As you all know the Tim Biglin award is presented to the member of the Club who, in the eyes of other members, has made a most significant contribution to the Club, outside the call of duty. A wide range of people were nominated, both new members and old, and the vote was in the end very close, just going to show that significant effort was going on a number of fronts; effort that was appreciated.

This year the award was presented to Craig, incidentally for the second year in a row! To give you an idea of what he did to deserve this honour (twice), I will leave you with some of the thoughts of those that nominated him:

“Craig, who whilst having to be a busy little bee as DO, just seems to always go two steps further whether at committee level, training level or Club promotion level”

“Craig takes out a hell a lot of his "private time" to help and encourage members of the Club to progress in their diving!!!”

BIG BOTTOM AWARD 2005

Unbelievable as it is, the chap running around winning the Tim Biglin Award also managed to clock up a very impressive time underwater . . .

Place	Name	No. of dives	Time underwater
1 st	Craig Burrell	72	2 days, 6 hours, 9 minutes
2 nd	Dominic Watts	56	1 day, 19 hours, 3 minutes
3 rd	Jackie O'Dowd	47	1 day, 9 hours, 46 minutes
4 th	Rik Nash	41	1 day, 7 hours, 17 minutes
5 th	Rob Killick	42	1 day, 5 hours, 36 minutes
6 th	James Lafferty	34	24 hours, 41 minutes
7 th	Christine Newton	30	24 hours, 13 minutes
8 th	Nigel Ealand	30	23 hours, 45 minutes
9 th	Rob Willin	37	23 hours, 36 minutes
10 th	Becca Weston	37	23 hours, 14 minutes

1000th DIVE CHALLENGE

This was the challenge set by Craig at the AGM in 2004 - at the time he questioned whether it was possible for Club members to clock up 1000 dives in 2005. A man of little faith . . . it wasn't just smashed, but obliterated. The total number of dives done in 2005 was 1246, 554 carried out from our own RIBs - and that's only 20 short of the total number of dives done in 2004! The Dive Marshall responsible on the day of the 1,000th dive was ENRICO MARCONI, who received a travel kit bag donated by Mike's Waterfront Warehouse, Chiswick.

COMMITTEE 05/06

For those of you who did not make it to the AGM, those elected to Committee are detailed below. We should all thank them for standing, I'm sure they'll all be given our support this year in running the Club and striving to make our diving experiences safe, relaxing and enjoyable.

Diving Officer	Dominic Watts	diving.officer@esac.org.uk
Training Officer	Greg Taylor	training.officer@esac.org.uk
Boat Officer	Ian McEwan	boat.officer@esac.org.uk
Equipment Officer	Dennis Philpott	equipment.officer@esac.org.uk
Treasurer	James Anderson	treasurer@esac.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Ian Oliver	membership.secretary@esac.org.uk
Social Secretary	Enrico Marconi	social.secretary@esac.org.uk
Secretary	Rob Killick	secretary@esac.org.uk
Chair	Craig Burrell	chairman@esac.org.uk

TRAINING . . . TRAINING . . . TRAINING . . . TRAINING . . . TRAINING . . .

2006 Training Activities

As your new Training Officer, I'd like to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me and to talk about what will be happening in the way of Training and Development in 2006.

I've been with the Club since 1987, making it as far as Dive Leader and Open Water Instructor. I've held most Committee posts but this is my first go at Training Officer. My job is to assist Dominic as Diving Officer to plan and organise a programme of training that will enable everyone to develop their diving skills and to gain further qualifications.

Even if you feel perfectly happy with the grade you are now, there is always room for development and the changes that have taken place in BSAC training over the years reflects the growing list of skills considered pertinent to each grade. So if you're a Sports Diver or Dive Leader with years of diving experience, why not come along to the lectures this year and add to your knowledge? I will!

Even if you don't want to learn any new skills, what about developing the ones you already have? If you have had a look at the BSAC Incident Reports recently you will have noticed that there are some qualified divers out there having some serious problems with basic skills; poor buoyancy control, running short of air and poor control of delayed SMBs to name but a few. If you feel you would like to brush up on skills this winter, have a chat with one of our growing number of instructors about current best practice and then try things out in the pool. You'll find that first dive of the season so much easier and you certainly won't be worried by the annual revalidation!

Enough of the preaching, so what is going to be happening this year as far as training is concerned?

As in past years, there will be a couple of intensive days to break the back of the Ocean and Sports Diver Theory Lectures. These are currently planned to take place on the 11th and 18th of February (two consecutive Saturdays) at the Northolt Community Centre.

These sessions are also an opportunity for those of you who have attended instructor training recently to get some lecturing practice. I'll be sending out an email to instructors asking for help so please give generously!

This year I'm benefiting from generous help from some of our senior instructors who will be running Dive Leader and Advanced Diver courses.

For those of you who are Sports Divers, Rik Nash and Jackie O'Dowd will be running a Dive Leader course. This will be getting under way soon, please let me know if you are interested.

For current Dive Leaders, Craig Burrell and Richard Ayers are running an Advanced Diver course which will be starting on Thursday 5th January (see page 7).

Happy New Year to you all

Greg Taylor

The following BSAC courses are also available - check them out

Boat Handling <http://www.bsac.org/learn/boathand.htm>

Designed to give you an insight into the safe handling of small boats. Seamanship, tides and the weather. Boat handling is one of the most popular courses for divers.

Diver Cox'n <http://www.bsac.org/learn/dcox.htm>

An 1 day practical assessment from which successful candidates will gain the BSAC Diver Cox'n qualification.

Chartwork & Position Fixing <http://www.bsac.org/learn/chartpf.htm>

This course provides an introduction to the art of marine chartwork and tidal predictions. Ideal for those looking for wrecks or new dive sites.

Outboard Maintenance <http://www.bsac.org/learn/outboard.htm>

To acquaint members with the design features and operation of modern outboard engines used on diving Club boats, fault finding and rectification, owner servicing and maintenance: the routine care of the boat hull and fittings, and trailer care.

ADVANCED DIVER TRAINING

Richard and Craig are looking forward to starting the Advanced Diver training. Details are:

Thursday 5th January 19:30 AT1 - The Role of The Advanced Diver

Thursday 19th January 19:30 AT2 - Advanced Diving

Thursday 26th January 19:30 AT3 - Organising Diving from Different Platforms

Sunday 29th January 09:00 AP1 - Expedition Planning - This is an instructor lead session with high student participation. Discussing all aspects of planning an expedition to an unknown site.

Sunday 29th January 10:30 AP2 - Dive Planning and Marshalling - This lesson extends over the time period necessary to plan and execute a dive trip of a least two days' duration and requiring the organisation of travel and accommodation in addition to diving activities.

Thursday 2nd February 19:30 AT4 - Reviewing of Diving Conditions and onsite First Aid

Sunday 26th February 09:00 AO1 - Diving and Rescue Skills Review
AO2 - Rescue Skills and Management Review

All lectures will be held at Northolt Community Centre, with the open water sessions being held at Vobster Quay.

Contact Craig for more info.

DIVE PLANS . . . DIVE PLANS . . . DIVE PLANS . . . DIVE PLANS . . . DIVE

I trust you have all had a good Christmas and, as you dig into your turkey sandwiches, are considering the impending New Year resolutions. So what better a time than think about all the diving that you want to be doing over the next 12 months.

So what we have arranged is a dive planning meeting whereby you can share the ideas you have jotted down and we can put some dates in the diary. This meeting is on

**Sunday 29th January 2006
at 19:30
at the Northolt Community Centre**

The meeting is open to everyone and is your chance to influence the diving that will go on next year. With the changes to the training schemes there is more requirement to actively planning and marshalling dives and so it is important to plan ahead for this now. Additionally we will go over the tools that are available to you to help plan the dives.

So I hope to see as many of you as possible attend and decide where we will be diving next year.

Best regards, and wishing you good New Year celebrations.

Dom Watts - DO

Some dates are already set:

Porthkerris, Cornwall - 1st-8th July 06. Mainly scenic reefs and pinnacles with plenty of life and good visibility. Also includes a stopover in Plymouth on the way down to see how the Scylla is progressing. Full details from Greg Taylor.

Isle of Man - 14th-21st June 06. Lots to see - pilot whales, seals and all the other sort of UK wild life, plus various wrecks. Experienced sports divers and above, due to depth of wrecks. See Jackie Rasbach for info. Oh, and June/July is basking shark season.

SOCIAL STUFF . . . SOCIAL STUFF . . . SOCIAL STUFF . . . SOCIAL STUFF

Dear Fellow Divers

Wasn't Jackie good this year. "The Ceilidh" was brilliant. Jackie has been an excellent social secretary. Thank you and Well Done!! It will be a hard act to follow.

I was told by some female members of the Club, that the social secretary was a woman's job - why they gave it to me God only knows? But nevertheless, I will see what I can do (with some hormone implants and a bit of extra PMT, I'm sure I'll be up to the job).

As my planning unfolds I can see we will have fun, so please keep an open mind, you must try something new at least once and keep checking the Events Diary on the Web.
www.esac.org.uk/Event_diary.asp

After some hard negotiation, I have managed to secure an evening of ballroom and latin american dancing. (Speaking sub-aqually****) A Try-Dance.

The lesson will cost £5.00 per person, it will take place in Cranford, details to follow. Please arrive at 7.45 pm for an 8pm start and will finish at 10pm on **Friday 3rd February 2006**. Unfortunately we have a limited number of places available so first come first serve basis.

If you have a pair of shoes with a leather bottom, good, a partner of the opposite sex is even better. Bring a refreshing drink.

I will take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and go and get your two left feet into shape.

Ciao
Enrico & Co.