



IPSAC

Isle of Purbeck Sub-Aqua Club



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October 2009 Newsletter

October already ?? What happened to the summer then ? Well, yet another "poor season" goes by & once more we can only hope for better luck next year.

So its time to get the social calendar dusted off and get some events planned for you; first up will be a skittles night, so get those arms limbered up ready! I also issue my usual plea; if anyone has any ideas for any event this year, or recommended eating establishment that the IPSAC Diners could try out, just let me know !

Jayne

Update ... what has happened in the club since the last newsletter

Diving... if anyone can remember what that is...

There was much griping about the weather in the last newsletter and sadly things have not improved much. August started OK, and fortunately we had great weather for the UTP show (see below). We got a few dives in, but by the end of August, the tail end of Hurricane Bill passed by and wiped out a whole bunch of dives. So, another red splodge on the dive plan, right across the August Bank Holiday, which was a great shame, as the Saturday dive out of Kimmeridge, the Black Hawk Winch, had no less that 15 divers booked on it, possibly an IPSAC record ? Looks like the Black Hawk continues to be one of our favourite dives.





Under the Pier Show

The finger crossing worked, and we couldn't have had a better day weather-wise for our annual UTP Show, with visibility under the pier as good as anyone could remember ! Although there didn't seem to be as much traffic on the pier, somehow people appeared from nowhere and packed into the tent for each of our five shows. The last one in particular was heaving ! Maybe word had got round by then ... ?! Loads to film down there; prawns lined up ready on the first pier leg, big shoals of bib and smelt, and gazzillions of tompots ! Thanks to everyone who helped out, especially Robin who organised us all.

Pier Camera and Hydrophone

The Club's input to the Pier Camera Project is just about complete, the camera now fully functional and the live feed for all to see in Divers Down. There are plans to have a permanent screen mounted outside Divers Down (this will have to wait for the appropriate planning permission etc) and a second screen in Marine Villas, but the underwater fiddling is complete, so thanks to all who helped out during the various stages of measuring, installing, tweaking.

Historical Divers

There was a very strange array of gear to be found on the pier last weekend when members of the Historical Diving Society came to the pier to try out some of their old twin-hose setups. It was a great opportunity to see old kit in action, like this very unusual weight harness sported by Doug. IPSAC divers were on safety standby, and with the glorious weather thrown in, a grand day was had by all. Thanks to those divers who came along to help out, we hope the Society will visit us again in the future to try out more of their exotic equipment !



End of Season Meal

Yes, end of season is already here (am I the only one that feels like it barely ever started?) and several divers went under the pier on our last Wednesday evening there. This was followed by a buffet supper at the Black Swan; thanks to Nick for organising this. And as ever, a big THANK YOU to Bob and Dutch for manning the pier for us every Wednesday night.

Up and Coming ... details of forthcoming events

Dive Plan ... still updating !

Chris has been busy rescheduling all those red dives for later in the season; there are lots of dives on there right up to the end of October... could this be the year we extend the dive season further than ever before ??! Fingers crossed for an Indian Summer !



AGM

The AGM will be on the 9th October at Durlston as per usual. Start time for the official proceedings is 7.30pm, to be followed by a buffet so please bring a plate of food to share. Will be a good opportunity to catch up with each other; hope to see you all there.

Skittles Evening

Our first social event this year will be a skittles night and this year we thought we'd try somewhere different, so I've booked the Clay Pipe Inn, Organford, for Thursday 22nd October. Cost is £8 to include a basket meal; either chicken, sausage, scampi or veggie sausage, all with chips of course! Please email me by Sun 18th with your food choices if you'd like to come along.



Saturday Swimming

The pool at the Purbeck Sports Centre is booked for the club on Saturday evenings starting on 10th October. Usual times are 8.00 - 9.00pm, though please note that this year there are several galas already arranged which means we get a slightly later slot of 8.30-9.30 on these dates: 10th Oct, 31st Oct, 7th Nov, 21st Nov.

Try Dive 24th October

A reminder that we have our try dive in a couple of weeks, hopefully members have been spreading the word and advertising the poster where they can. Updates will be sent nearer the time calling for volunteers to help out on the night.

November Monthly Meal

IPSAC Diner's first official outing will be on Wednesday 11th November when we'll try Drusilla's Inn in Horton. I've had this place recommended to me by several people and right now they have various midweek deals on, so looks like it is well worth trying out, though I appreciate it is a little far out for some members (but not all!). Let me know if you'd like to come along.



Christmas Party

Thank you to everyone who voted in the poll about this year's Christmas get together. Although not everyone in the club managed the 2 mouse clicks I asked of them, I have reached a decision based on the feedback and comments of those that did. I'm waiting for confirmation from the venue, so will forward this via email as soon as everything is confirmed, but I can tell you that the date for the Christmas Dinner is very likely to be Friday 11th December. Full details to follow very shortly !

Dates for Your Diary ... a summary of what is planned

9th October - AGM, Durlston

22nd October - Skittles night, Clay Pipe Inn

24th October - Try Dive

11th November - Monthly Meal, Drusillas Inn, Horton

11th December - Christmas Party... TBD !