

<a href="#">Contents</a>	<a href="#">Training</a>	<a href="#">Newsletter</a>	<a href="#">How to Join</a>	<a href="#">Who Are We</a>	<a href="#">Resources</a>	<a href="#">Links</a>	<a href="#">Photos</a>
--------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------	------------------------

# Croydon BS-AC 23

## The Muddy Puddle

---

### **And Now for a taste of things to Come!!**

Welcome to the first issue of the Muddy Puddle for the year 2000. The more observant regular readers will have noticed a slight change to this issue. Yes we are now in Technicolor, and contained in this issue are some photos of the past few years diving. I am glad to see that even though we have passed the infamous Y2K some things, in BSAC 0023, never change. However, some things do, including this publication. First off we shall be receiving a monthly article from Uncle Dave, our DO. Further, our new Chairperson (man) Tom will also be contributing from time to time, if he can learn how to type. I would like to see more club contributions to the magazine as it saves my spelling mistakes. I shall also try to bring you some articles about places the club is going to through out the year, i.e. Plymouth and it's many pubs. The recipe of the month will be revived and we could not continue forth without the welcome return of Diver of the Month.

You will also see in this issue the Alternative Diver of the Year Award for 1999 being handed out to a deserving recipient. The Award covers the period from November 1998 to November 1999.

This does not cover the Club's Christmas party, which as most attendees will agree had a few nominees for Diver of the Month performing at their highest level. Those who want to know more then please see this months DoM. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves, although some more than others, and overall the event was deemed a huge success. With the start of the new year we have received many new members, and some old faces have returned. I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming Kevin Bryan, Patrick Campbell, April Perrin, Joanne Robins, Stephen Barrett and Eddie Wilkins to the club and hope they enjoy the forthcoming diving year. I would also like to welcome Mr David Solomon back to the fold, after years of being a warm water diver.

Whatever level you are, I wish you a good and safe year's diving

### **News From Amphibian Sports**

Bob Lenham, owner of Amphibian Sports in West Norwood, is soon to hand over the running of the shop to another party, and will be starting up a new dive business in Tenerife. Bob has been a good friend to the club over the years and I am sure you will join me in wishing Bob all the best with his future projects.

### **The Alternative Diver of the Year 1999....**

## Is Tom Maguire

I was set to give this award to the diver at the Christmas Party last year, but due to several problems was unable to produce this newsletter, and so have withheld the award until now. This award, the Alternative Diver of the Year, goes to most deserving Diver of the Month, who in the eyes of the club had produced the biggest laugh. Several names were presented to me, but a clear favourite emerged. The winner was clear-cut, and had won the award with a show of outstanding calmness and professionalism.

Tom Maguire has been given this award for his performance at Plymouth back in August. When he unselfishly gave all the divers the dive boat Storm a damn good laugh, whilst keeping a straight face of his own, in a very difficult position. Well-done and many congratulations to Tom on being the clubs first ever Alternative Diver of the Year.

But you'll have to improve for this year, as the competition will be tough, with some having started very early, as we shall see?

**And now? .**

### Diver of the Month

As regular readers, many of last year's issues carried a Diver of the Month award, presented to any diver/divers, who in the eyes of yours truly fouled up, or made a total arse of themselves. However, I was not prepared for two late entries into the fray at the Christmas Party.

First off, one member of our gas guzzling fraternity some how slipped back in time to when he was a mere snip of a lad, sailing the seven seas and serving Queen and country. One can only assume the country was safe in his hands, for I am sure in 30 to 40 years time, when secret Whitehall documents are released they will show that in the late 1980's, the Royal Navy developed a Biological and Chemical weapon to rival any in the Warsaw Pact. You may be asking how I can make an assumption.

Well I say with the utmost certainty that I have seen this weapon in action, and the terrible after effects and resulting casualties. Many joyous revellers felt the fallout of this weapon, not even the drunk were immune, some lapsed close to unconsciousness, other fell back under the onslaught, many came close to physical sickness. Even now the site of this attack reeks with stench of death and decay. I have given a name to this pain and it is Rob Panton. His bowels were so pungent that he proceeded unhindered to the dance floor. Where upon he "danced", and I use the term loosely,



to "In the Navy". Here Rob was met by the only person not effect by the stench, Dave "Grease Lightning" Solomon, who etched his name on a

Diver of the Month award, with a dynamic display of hand and foot movements performing a routine that was a cross between Jamiqui and one of the Village people.

I heartily believe that both Dave and Rob deserve to win a first Diver of the Month, and so hereby present them with the first one of 2000.

### **Other Notices**

#### Late Bargain

Plymouth Easter 2000, 21st-24th April, few places still remaining, £50 deposit needed off all divers ASAP...Balance due by the end of March (but will be taken before!!!)

The Dive sheets are now available. So don't delay? . Operators are standing by to take our order? . . Remember first come first served!!!!

#### Dry Suit for Sale!!!

Stay warm and dry this year with an O'3 Lycra 5mm Dry Suit, with inflator hose, 2 cuff dumps and no leaks for sale.

Mark Emuss size, boots size 6.

For more details contact Mark Emuss.

#### It's for Charity but I don't like to talk about it!!

Has Christmas left its mark on your waistline?

Has that dive suit ? shrunk? again this year?

Does the prospect of another season of wheezing and puffing as you hump gear around fill you with dread?

Do you need to use a 15l when all around you use a 12?

If you answer yes to any of the above, then you need to get yourself down the pool and start swimming, and in order to give you something to aim for, how about joining with other Club / Family members on the weekend of March 18 / 19. I ? m looking for teams of 4 or 5 to partake in the BT Swimathon. This year it? s in aid of Shelter & the event is helping to raise Over £1,5 Million for this very worthwhile Charitable event.

The diving season is just around the corner, start getting dive fit today and do a good turn along the way.

Swim the challenge? show you care? .

Get your name to Mark Emuss now!

### **Diving into 2000.**

Recreation diving has come a long way in the 50 or so years it has been around but what does the future hold, and how will it affect BSAC 0023 divers? Well in the

article I wish to expose how nature, through evolution, and man, through technology, will radically change the diver of tomorrow. I shall be using known some divers within the club to help me demonstrate.

As we all know the sea levels are rising, the polar caps are melting and summers are shorter than when I was a boy. This lead to only one, conclusion, the only humans to survive will be those that adapt, i.e. Divers. Mother Nature never puts all her eggs in one basket, so she will devise different route, allowing for survival of the fittest. She will alter the physical aspects of the diver so that he/she either adapts to their environment or has the capability to solve problems caused within his/her environment (i.e. through technology).

Nature has already begun altering the physical aspects of some divers in readiness for the future, but as is the wondrous nature of Nature, she has experimented with formulae to create several different evolutionary tracks and sub species. These first groups of Diver will belong to a group known as Aquaphibious -Humanus, (Aqua men), they will be completely at home in water, some will develop gills, while others will still surface for air.

The first group will shall examine are the Higgus-Tonus-Raius (Puffer diver). These will be a direct descendents of today's balding divers. Their balding heads becoming perfectly hydrodynamic, their legs will remain but instead of feet will be flaps of skin, used as underwater sails. Their already large mouths will grow further and teeth will be replaced will plates to enable surface filter feeding. They will swim on their backs just under the surface, with the enlarged noses breaking the surface to enable breathing. Although harmless they will not be defenceless. When attacked they will expand, through masses of internally produced hot air, scaring off any would be attacker. Higgus-Tonius-Raius, is often accompanied by Buildus-Finchus-Palus (BuildaGnome). This species varies in body size and shape, but is often decorated in colourful patterns, especially the Denius-Colourus or Greater Tattooed Builda. It too is an air breather, but lacks the enlarge nose, requiring it to porpoise to breathe. It swims on it's side, but in a erratic fashion, it's legs must be continuous kick otherwise it will sink and drown, the Micius-Electrius-Ciderus or the Cider-Gnome must keep up a kick rate of 400 kick per minute just to stay afloat. It is often seen to make "nests" but these are never completed, due to its nomadic life style. They feed mainly of crustaceans and rotting sea apples.

The Dillionus-Orthcanthrea is really an extended subspecies of divers, all air breathers. This includes the Adamsus-Dillionius, the Great White Flipper, generally found near to land in warm shallow waters, and is instantly obvious by his brilliant white pigmentation. The Perion-Dillionius, The fun loving Clown-Diver, is obvious by it's continual stream of bubbles and is often seen frolicking on the surface above wrecks. The Alexis-Di-Clodius or Back-to-Front Diver swims erratically and is often the chosen prey of aquatic carnivores; often it seeks out shelter amid schools of other

Dillonius-Orthcanthrea. Top of the Dillonius-Orthcanthrea family is the Dillon-Brawna-Dillonius, or Greater-Brown-Sauce Diver, so named after its dietary habits. This Diver shoals around areas connected with boats, whether they be old ship wrecks, harbours or drive ways. Its flattened head has developed sensors that can detect the small particles of brass, much like a shark can detect electrical currents. This helps it navigate from wreck to wreck in search of its favourite food, HP-Sauce fish, a mutant from the early 21st Century.

The final variety of air breathers is the Maguirus-Belugus, these are characterised by their breath holding ability. There are two distinct varieties, the Bulblus-Belugus, the Greater Crested Elephant Diver, and the Tellius-Tubbius-Maguirus, commonly called the Preying Hawk Diver. So named due to its hunting habits. The Tellius-Tubbius-Maguirus, will often position itself near a rookery of breeding divers, take a lung full of air, and descend to a great depth, it will remain static awaiting its prey, juvenile divers taking to the water for the first time. Then they rush up from below and snatch the unfortunate away from the safety of the rookery and into the deep. The Bulblus-Belugus, is often believed to be the offspring of a human and Whale, but in truth is a development of the diver. Nature has equipped the creature much like the larger seals. It is agile whilst in water yet cumbersome on land; force to roll its great mass forward to move. It has dense layer blubber to withstand the freezing waters of the north Atlantic. It often has cross species affairs with Seals and Sea lions, which can lead to trouble. Both species have developed the ability to breathe through the posteriors.

The prolific species of Gill Men is that of the Carvalla-Finius (the Bleached Hair Gloved Gill Diver). This diver has developed oversized gloved hands, which are not used for swimming but as a display used during mating. This Diver also needs to swim constantly, although not for any physical reason, it just enjoys swimming. The most surprising feature is that it is only able to stay down for short periods and must soon return to gaze at its reflection on the surface film.

Next Issue we shall take a detailed look at the other evolutionary trail taken by the Diver of the 21st Century.



### **Caption Competition...**

Memories of Wales: Tony Ray and Dave Elphick "enjoying" the welsh air, but can you guess what was being said?

### **Instructor Training Courses Dates**

6/7 May 9/10 September, 11/12 Nov 2000

ITC's are open to Sports Divers and above; these are two-day courses, which instruct on teaching practical and theory lessons.

### **Dive Leader Courses Start**

From the end of February Dive Leader Lectures will begin. This course is open to experienced Sports Divers, and is the next step up the BSAC ladder. The course will consist of both practical and theory lessons. For more details contact Abbey or Jan, who will supply dates and training plans.

### **DIVING OFFICER? S RAMBLINGS**

Chris Boddington has been moaning at me for the last month as I haven't written an article for the magazine. I can't understand why anyone would want to read the ramblings of a middle aged merchant banker? I said banker. Moreover, he wants me to write one monthly. Still, I decided to give it a go and put pen to paper or, rather, fingers to keyboard.

I may be wrong but, since the AGM, the atmosphere in the club has changed. There does not seem to be the cliquey atmosphere about which there used to be so many complaints. Members appear a lot more relaxed and are happily chatting together. We've had quite a few try dives in the past 2 months, some of whom have actually parted with hard cash to become members, and without exception their main comments are, firstly, how good looking and charming the DO is and, secondly, what a friendly bunch we are. Let's keep this up from now on.

This year has also seen other changes. The RIB has been moved down to Littlehampton and will actually make money if we put effort in. The Easter beano has been moved to Plymouth (from Weymouth) so that we might get some decent diving. Memberships have finally been sorted out and members' records are up to date, almost.

All this is very up beat. However, to keep the club ticking over like this is no easy task. Considerable effort has been put in already by a number of individuals but it is not fair that these should have to do all the work. Rest assured, I will be asking each of you to do a little more than usual. For one thing, I'd like to see a lot more people on poolside or practising skills in the water on Wednesdays. Also, with the sudden influx of potential/new members, I need extra help so don't be surprised if you get a short notice phone call asking for the loan of kit or for you to take in a try dive.

I realise all this sounds like the Queen's speech at Christmas, but it is important that we all work together. Likewise, if any of you has a gripe please don't grumble and seethe in a corner, tell me or any of the other committee members. Don't forget that Dave Elphick is your representative, so use him.

All I've tried to do in this initial foray into prose is to set the scene. I don't want to labour the points, as I know each of you is more or less aware what makes a club successful. Let's make this year the best you can remember.

*Dave.*

---

[Contents](#) [Training](#) [Newsletter](#) [How To Join](#) [Who Are We](#) [Resources](#) [Links](#) [Photos](#)

Page created by [Paul Brown](#).