

Upcoming dives

Easter	Plymouth
24-26 May	Falmouth weekend
31st May	Oceana 25m
I 4th June	Kerryado 42m
21st june	Littlehampton 35m max
27-5th July	Scapa Flow
6th July	Ramsgarth 25m
12-13 July	Ioleanthe(40m) & Salsette (45m)

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May 2008 Issue 2 for 2008

What kind of people do we attract??

You may think that the club attracts a fairly varied type of people from all walks of like who are primarily interested in Diving.

We all dress up in rubber at weekend, some of us in skin tight rubber (Shouldn't be allowed for some) but most of us in expensive binliners, but we seem to be attracting some attention of a different kind.

The public face of the club has moved on over the past few years from a club that advertised in the local pool for members, from the local community to a point where today anyone in the world can find out about the club in the comfort of their own home.

When I joined the club, like a good percentage of the club, the Internet wasn't the all singing all dancing must have toy it is now, it was a collection of text pages for computer geeks, but now everyone and everything must have a webpage, and as we all know the club has a website detailing the activities, history and characters from the club.

However, in recent months the website has been picked up on some strange searches. Our webmaster collects stages from the website about what searches found our website, and the results are disturbing and leads us to question how people found the club.

There are some obvious searches carried out, including several about our TV star, international jetsetter and perpetual blocked

earer El Presidente, as well as other named members and exmembers of the club, plus the usual learn to dive, London dive clubs etc searches criteria.

However, some are into the more 'Westward Bound' category of searches, which would lead a casual observer to believe the club is more an extreme 'swinger' type of club and the only diving we do does not require weight belts.

Is this a sign we are moving into a even greater diversity of members, or a sign of our times and that we are advertising on accentually a random media?

Judge for yourselves as the search results are shown on the back page.

Editorial Notes:

A big thank you to all those who assisted in this months magazine, especially

Linda Humphreys, Paul Brown, Alan Glen and Jeff Proudfoot

Please keep sending articles in from everybody, and thanks to the DoM leaks.

Easter at Plymouth by Linda Humphreys

It was Easter weekend which meant time to head down to Plymouth. My plan was to get to Plymouth by 10pm on the Thursday night; but unfortunately after spending four hours stationary on the M25 and making various phone calls trying to decide whether I should just give up and

Paul Brown admitted he wasn't feeling 100% turn back, I arrived at 2am welcomed by a rather sleepy Chris Carter. After about four hours sleep my alarm went off at 7am and I received a call saying that the dive had been blown

out. I had wondered if this would happen when my car was being blown all over the A303

in the early hours of the morning! After having a late breakfast some of us headed off to Plymouth aquarium – we thought it could well be the closest we'd get to

marine life that weekend if the weather didn't improve! On the way to the aquarium we bumped into a rather worse for wear bunch of divers all in their sunnies – Paul Brown admitted he wasn't feeling 100% and I don't think any of them looked too disappointed that the dive was cancelled!

Day two and better luck - the dive was on! So we all drove down to the Mount Batten centre, got the kit on the boat and off we went. First stop was the James Egan Layne. It sank in March 1945 after ferrying men and materials across the world for the war effort. After being hit by a torpedo from a German U-boat near the Eddvstone reef. **James** Egan Lavne was towed towards Plvmouth with the hope of saving as much of her cargo as possible. However on the way back, her stern col-



lapsed causing her to sink in Whitsand bay, where she still sits upright, pointing north towards the shore. Each buddy pair discussed their plan, as it was my first dive and I only had a ten litre cylinder, our plan was to "poodle around the bow" but others explored further. I wasn't sure what it'd be like diving wrecks as I'm not particularly interested in the ships

was quite a view.

All in all, my first dive went without too much of a hitch. At one point my fin was slipping off, I couldn't reach it so I showed Tony, and as I motioned what was wrong my bottom timer began to fall off my wrist. We swam up the hull and Tony kindly sat



themselves but I now know that doesn't matter at all. The hull was covered in anemones which (I'm sure to Tony's dismay) I found great pleasure in prod-

ding repeatedly. There were lots of starfish, wrasse and plenty of other fish. I saw what looked like a huge crab below me and a p p a r e n t I y "ordered" my buddy to go down to get it for me (!).

The visibility was particularly good that day and looking up at the silhouette of her bow

me on the ship and sorted my life out for me. Back on the boat I was told I didn't know how lucky I was with visibility like that. In no time at all tea orders were taken and I was warming up with a nice hot chocolate – just the job. Then a delicious chilli was served by Pete our skipper.

The second dive we did was the Scylla. This is a wreck of F71 HMS Scylla, a Leander-class frigate that served in the Royal Navy between 1970 and December 2003. After be-

ing decommissioned, she was bought by the National Marine Aquarium and sunk on the

27th of March 2004 in Whitsand bay, where she now lies creating an artificial reef for divers, the first of its kind in Europe.

We all headed down the main buoy which took us to the deck off the bow, there was lots to see

again and plenty of room to have a good look around. There are many large openings (with clearly marked warning signs) in her hull for more experienced divers to penetrate inside her, but being only my second dive I just peeped my head in to have a look around. Apparently there is lots to see inside such as the radar control consoles. I was warned there may not be as much life on the Scylla as there was on the James Egan Layne as she was a very young wreck, but the hulls were still teaming with anemones and sea squirts in all different sizes and colours. Also many of the fish we saw in the morning

on the James Egan Layne could be found hanging around the Scylla. Towards the



end of the dive the current seemed to pick up a bit and Tony had to help me get across to the other side of the deck as no matter how hard I finned I wasn't getting anywhere! Then up the shot we went. We then headed back to shore, dropped our tanks off to be filled, and went for a curry standard procedure on these trips I was informed!

There was lots of talk of possible dives we could do on day two, but on boarding the boat Pete received news from another boat that where we were hoping to head was too choppy. Apparently that meant any decent dives we could have done were blown out

so we were going to dive the best of a bad bunch (!) which I believe was a wreck of

> Association. w headed across we saw how bad the conditions were, we had journey through s o m e verv choppy

sea which was a real test on our stomachs! Eventually we reached our target and descended the shot line. There were lots of different coloured star fish and many crabs. Warren came up with a variety of pots and all sorts of goodies that he'd found.

Then we had lunch; a delicious curry, and plenty of naan which Paul Carvall insisted on hoarding down his dry suit, along with the crisps and malt loaf we had been given. Nicola got a very nice quorn curry made just for her. Then skipper said that the site in which we'd stopped for lunch could be our 2nd dive – Paul Brown commented that there's a skipper who's

thinking of his fuel bill!

A few of us headed in to do the second dive. a drift dive over a reef. The visibility wasn't particularly good, and a few people managed to lose their buddies. The current was quite strong and Chris later complained he'd spent most the time swimming against it as Neil tried to take photos!

Monday was the last day of diving, but this was my day off so you'll have to ask the others how that went! On questioning though I found out it was the best day weather wise and the sea was very calm-typical!

Overall I really enjoyed my first diving experience. I loved exploring a completely new environment and seeing the wildlife so close up. The freedom I felt putting my training into practice and being able to have a nice relaxing dive was amazing. I had a brilliant time both in and out of the water and can't wait for my

next trip.



The Muddy Puddle

Training Update

Training is on going.

Sports diver lectures are still in progress and will be shortly concluded with the practical taking place between now and Scapa at the end of June.

In addition to SD, Buzz H is going to do the Nitrox workshop and get qualified to use NITROX. This workshop only really applies to Divers who have not learned by the current BSAC syllabus which is NITROX compliant.

If there are any of you who are not qualified to the current BSAC syllabus and are also not NITROX divers,

please let me know and we can do the workshop and you can get a qualification which most other training agencies charge for. The only expense is a small admin charge by BSAC and the mandatory purchase of your own set of BSAC NITROX tables + the cost of a photo. The course manual is down loaded free from the BSAC site.

SO.. Tread boldly.

As soon as the current crop of Sports Divers are done, Chris Carter and I shall set off and start the Dive Leader practicals for the dive leaders who have completed the theory.

In addition to the Dive Leader, I shall be sorting out Advanced Diver training and practicals for Chris Carter and also concluding same for Roger Smith.

2 Things.

I As ever I am at your disposal for training...

2 I have some spaces on the Scapa Flow holiday 28 June to 5 July...

Let me know.

Regards

Alan

Chairman's Blog

Friends, Divers, Rubber freaks give me your scal-

The season is now well underway, Easter has come and gone with the usual results of diving chaos, poor viz and strangely excellent weather, the club has launched many successful sorties into the blue/green/ brown of the channel and one not quite so successful one.

By now most of you will be dreaming of shoals of Bass and Pouting, grabbing crabs and lobsters, finding ship's bells and hidden treasure chests for the long winter of discontent has ended and

the summer looks to promise long lazy days of sub aquatic adventure, but please remember as one who speaks first hand of this knowledge, beware and do not let your skills or attention slip form the task at hand. Above all please listen to the <u>Skipper</u> on the boat and the experienced hands of the club.

There is more training in the up and coming weeks, as General Glen has outlined in his report so please let him know if vou are interested.

Also it seems that my persistent badgering of

Minister Griffith has won the day and he has convinced Claire and Dave Elphick (D.O) to hold a cocktail evening. Tickets are limited and given the events of the last one, the entertainment value should To the rest of you have a be high...

With regards the other committee issues, I'm sorry to say we haven't had a meeting for a while, party due to my being posted to Leicester for 6 campaign and partly for the reason we haven't needed one for a while as most of the issues outstanding have been resolved. Although one or

two individual should hide from me due to their inability to communicate or perform tasks assigned to them by the committee. You know who you are!!

great season and I hope not to see you DoM.

Your eternal dictator El Presidente



Croydon BSAC 23

Cocktails and Canapes with other Diving Entertainment

7th June 2008 6pm – 10pm

Dave'n'Claire's, Thanet Place, Croydon

Tickets £10 from chris.griffiths@directline.com

Limited to 20 only

Cocktails Canapes

Champagne Cocktails Fish

Bellini Prawn and Avocado mousse on

Buck's Fizz croustade

Classic Champagne Cocktail Bellini's with Caviar

Kir Royale Smoked Salmon Roulade

Long Drinks Seafood vol-au-vente

Long Island Iced Tea Meat

Pimms No1 Miniature toad-in-the-hole

Moscow Mule Chicken Liver Pate on melba toast

Fruity Ones Beef and artichoke tart

Mai Tai Vegetarian

Rum Punch Stuffed mushrooms

Pina Colada Samosas

Non-Alcoholic Miniature Cheese'n'Onion Pasties

Juices – Peach, Orange, Pineapple

(Diet) Coke

(Diet) Lemonade Page 5

May Dives by Paul Brown

The club's schedule for May was packed with diving, with only one weekend out of five not having a boat booked. This chokkadiving-month began with a trip down to Brighton on Bank Holiday Monday to dive the Fortuna from Brighton Diver II. This was our first trip with Paul Dyer for 2008 and he was good enough to arrange for the sea to be flat and the sun to be shining. Whilst chugging out we crossed a line about 3 miles from the wreck site where the water changed from a blueish green to a mucky, planktony, snotty green. Paul came out for a look and suggested we may be better off going to the Clodmoor where he had some OK visibility the day before, so we swung round and headed a bit further east to the Clod.

The armed steamship Clodmoor was launched in 1902 weighing 3700 tons and measuring 340 feet in length. She was sunk in 1917 by torpedo 5 miles south of Newhaven on route from Bahia Blanca for Newcastle whilst carrying a cargo of wheat. Today she lies in 28m (high water) in two pieces with the bow

and stern both standing proud of the seabed. The mid-ships area disappears into the sand from the bigger bow section and reappears some distance away where the stern eventually rises. Apparently the six-bladed propeller sticks out on it's shaft from the stern as though suspended in midair, although I didn't notice this.

Chris Griffiths had drawn the short straw so had to endure the "pleasure" of diving with me. Our plan had been for about 45mins on the Fortuna, but as the Clodmoor is a slightly shallower wreck we were able to extend this a little. We jumped in first and descended to what I think was the bows, Paul had asked us to keep a lookout for a shot that he'd lost in the same area, so we had a look round but couldn't see anything. In 3m visibility we headed off slowly towards the bows keeping one eye out for the shot weight and another out for crabs/lobsters. picked up a decent sized crab just before we rounded the bows which are very mangled. This wreck is not at all shipshape and it is rather difficult to orientate yourself, especially in poor visibility. From the bows we headed off towards the stern, fighting with crabs and lobsters along

the way. The wreck disappeared into the sand for a while, but we carried on as I knew there was another section standing up. We reached the stern and made a circuit of the large section that still stands, I picked up a lobster and Chris had a good fight with a crab. The tide had started to pick up so we decided to drift slowly back along the wreck to the Bows, where we done one or two more circuits before launching the blobs for our ascent. A pleasant enough dive of 58mins on the wreck with a couple of minutes of stops in visibility that wasn't great, but was better than expected.

After tea/sandwiches/piss taking about my lobster/ criticism of my crab// liberating of my lobster/ liberating of my crab it was time for the second dive on the ledges. Visibility was about 1-2m and it really wasn't all that good. I don't think anyone done longer than 30mins. All in all an excellent day out that ended with a couple of rather civilised post-dive pints in the yacht club.

The weather all week after the bank holiday was fantastic, with the sun shining down and very little wind blowing, which meant we were set for

some nice weather for the planned dive on Sunday the 11th May. The idea had been to dive the Tycho, an interesting wreck off of Worthing in about 33m, but unfortunately Steve had "Chris taken Channel had a Diver there good the day before and the fight viz had with a been awful. The May crab" bloom was in and, as per usual, it was ruining

ing. Steve gave us the choice of going offshore and taking a chance with the viz or staying in and doing a shallow wreck close to shore where the visibility was much better. It was a bit of a nobrainer really, we went with the viz and headed for the wreck of the Indiana.

our sport just as the

weather started improv-

The Indiana was a 2266 ton Hull-registered steamship built in 1889 measuring 277 ft. x 38 ft. that sank on the 1 March 1901 after a collision in heavy fog with the City of Washington. The wreck

now lies very broken about a mile off of Wor-

lot of sweating. After a con- their flashing skin. After just flab with Paul Carvall and over an hour of premiership-



The last sighting of the Indiana before she sank

thing Pier in 8m of water.

So here we were, an hour's steam from Brighton in flat calm seas with the sun blazing down carrying several 12l twinsets, a couple of 15l twinsets and a rebreather all to do an 8m dive. To add insult to injury there were a couple of blokes already on site freediving it - ye, that's right, we were diving a wreck that can be done using a snorkel. Oh the shame. Still, one good thing was that the viz was there and so was the wreck we knew this because we could see it over the side of the boat!

Kitting up was a chore that was carried out with a certain amount of embarrassment and quite a Tony Ray, my buddies (I use the term loosely) for the day, we decided that we wouldn't be taking our stage bottles with us, so in we plopped. The viz really was excellent -10m at least, and as we were so shallow the light meant that there was no need for torches at all. The wreck is very broken up and is really just a rummage dive. There are a few points of interest winches, a large section of plating and some of the deck fittings, but largely this wreck is a load of spread out metal lumps on a shingle seabed. The attraction was the life it's completely covered in fish, crabs, conga, blennies, tunicates and kelpy-planty-crud. Also inhabiting the wreck are several large cuttlefish - I saw four all in different areas, all hovering about looking at me with their beady eyes and

level rummaging I had a couple of crabs in the bag and decided to ascend – no deco required here, just a couple of fin strokes and I was on the surface, which was by this time mirrorcalm.

Back on the boat and I am more than happy: excellent viz, roasting hot and a crab to take home (I threw the second one back). It was then that certain stories started circulating on the boat...The first was of a nameless diver/Equipment Officer who thought that the best was to jump in was with his suit open. This despite having the skipper of the boat standing next to him shouting to everyone to make sure their suits were done up! Steve, being quite good at this sort of thing, managed to recover the nameless one and get him back on board, so the attempted drowning failed must try harder next time!!!!

Second story was of an elder-statesman of the club. Apparently, Manta (as he's known to his friends) drank a little too much water and had

forgotten to "drain the lizard" before the dive. On the bottom he signalled to his buddy that a bladder-emptying required, but said buddy ignored this and carried on crab hunting. Unfortunately that meant that Manta had only one choice - to let loose in his drysuit like a baby in a nappy! Suffice to say he stank like the gents in the Rose and Crown for the rest of the day, I've never seen so many flies buzzing round that far out at sea!

A slow chug back to the ledges was filled with the usual teas, banter and sandwiches before a second dive on the ledges. The visibility here was about 4-5m, much better than the previous week. Conga, lobsters and a lot of berried crabs littered the ledges but alas we didn't get anything more for the pot.

This was a top day out that really punched above it's weight — OK, so the first dive was very shallow, but we had the viz and it's not often you get to spend an hour on the wreck with only a minute needed to as-

The Muddy Puddle

Want to get Lean and Trim? Then Dive!

As we all know Diving is becoming more and more popular, and a certain mystic is building up in the media about those who participate in it. The Hollywood image of divers being glossy men and women in silver suits, and instant dry hair still seems to abound, but according to some of the press diving is the next big thing for fitness nuts and Hollywood work out videos.

Below is an article found in http://www.scubaherald.com/

So how can you become the next Jessica Alba thanks to Scuba Diving...

Think of the amount of calories you loose while scuba diving.

Here we go:

Shapely legs: Swimming with fins (flippers) is like water-based weight-training - firming the front of the thighs as you kick down and the back of the thighs as you kick up. 4 stars

Weight loss: Surprisingly good for burning energy. Someone weighing approximately 70kg (11st) burns 13 calories a minute while scuba diving, so a 45-minute dive would use 585 calories. 3 stars

Cardio respiratory fitness: According to the British Thoracic Society, scuba divers tend to have larger-than-average lungs and an increased vital capacity (the maximum volume of air exhaled after inhalation). 4 stars

Upper-body strength: The back, shoulders and arms get a certain amount of work lugging around equipment, but once in the water, the upper body gets off lightly. Arms are usually folded across the chest or kept by the sides. 2 stars

Convenience: Even if you decide to dive in the UK, it's still an equipment-heavy, locationspecific, expensive sport that requires a licence, and therefore tuition. 1 star

There are a few issues with the points above that need consideration.

With the exception of Paul Carvall, nobody really fins any wear under water, we either wreck walk or go with the current.

The weight lost during the dive is usually added back with interest with the post dive curry and 10 pints of larger.

Larger lungs just mean some people seem to drink more air especially when they've lugged their gear from the car, with a fag in their mouth.

Finally there is nothing convenient about driving 40miles, lugging all that gear on the boat, only to be told the dive is blown out.

So the next time you're on a dive boat look around, you could be sitting next to a supermodel or Hollywood hunk, or you could be sitting next to a fat bloke, with a pie in his mouth and a very large beer belly!!!

Club Notices Issue 2 for 2008

Training

Lifesaver Course

BSAC SDC, to be run over the summer

Open to all members.

Please contact Alan Glen to register your interest..

Dive Leader Course

To be run in 3rd Quarter 2008

Open to Sports Divers/members.

Please contact Alan Glen to register your interest..

New!!!

Pool Times:

8pm to 9pm

Wednesday's

Notices



Illiterate car mechanic requires lessons in reading, writing, financial planning and time keeping.

Please reply to Al at

P.O Box 807

New Home Wanted for the Bod Mobile.

1carful owner and 1 El Presidente

108k, still drives like new (!), FSH, no dents but a few stains, E/W, E/M, pop up headlights, CD/radio, Tax and Mot, Black, 4 seats, boot large enough for 2 twinsets and 4 stages + kit

Must be willing to drive like a maniac and love it!!



Next Time your bored and want to spice up your diving weekends with some action above the water, then consider

P&P's Moorland Orienteering Course

We will teach you all the survival techniques to stay alive on Dartmoor, you will learn how to live off the land, to go without food or water, to outwit the local wildlife, sheep, rabbits, ponies and even hedgehogs.

You will learn to navigate without the use of GPS or maps, but with an internal compass to guide you, you will learn the skills of wandering until you are hopelessly lost. P&P's Moorland Orienteering course gives you all this skills and so much more.

We taught R.Mears all he knows....

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

For Sale

15lt Steel Cylinder

Out of Test

Reasonable offers

Contact

Chris B

Stainless Steel Pony Clamp

Ouick release

£30

Contact

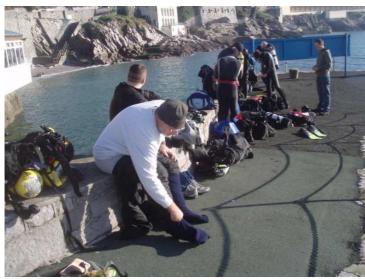
Chris B

Raising Money for the RNLJ

www.buymybeard.com



What have I done this year?



Unseasonably good February weather at Plymouth.

It's been a bit of an odd year all round so far with diving being pretty far down the list of priorities. Personally I blame Steph who has used the excuse of 'gaining an education' to scupper most plans. I went to Plymouth in February to dive the Scylla and as usual with Plymouth trips ended up doing something completely different. The dive show reared its ugly head in March and was notable for a meeting with Russ Smithers and Dan Tamone and the absence of Gail from Gozo Aqua Sports. I secured half a semi-dry, which I later put to good use in Malta.

Which brings us to Malta. Having secured two weeks half board at the Topaz,

Bugibba, for £500 including flights for the two of us what could possibly go wrong? That's possibly the wrong word. What happened was something different. Instead of the hairy-arsed boy things we usually indulge in, I found myself doing gentle, relaxing stuff and, strangely enough, quite enjoyed it!

The sea was kicking up a bit, well, a lot, on the south side so we headed North. I had suggested that L'Ahrax Point and the Inland Sea, mainland version, would be a good dive especially as no one but me had done it before. We got there and the sea was like a millpond. We kitted up and headed off keeping the shoreline in sight all the



L'Awhrax Point entry.

way. It took s half an hour to get to the Point where I found a stiff current facing us. In view of the time it had taken to get this far, I decided that it would be safer not to risk rounding the Point and gave the turn around signal. We headed back with me bringing up the rear until I noticed we were out of sight of the shoreline. I turned forty-five degrees south, no mean feat as my compass had escaped on my first dive, and the others joined me rather reluctantly and with lots of gesticulation (Where the hell are you going? That sort of thing.) Luckily the shoreline re-appeared and we were able to proceed by pilotage to the exact place where we got in for a dive time of just over

the hour.



Cirkewwa and found this arch which I'd never seen before which is quite amazing seeing as how often I've dived in this area. This picture doesn't convey the size of it. It's actually comparable to the one under the Blue Hole on Gozo.

We did an interesting dive on the South side of

What I was trying to convey here (below) is that this is very similar to British diving. In fact it's rarely dived for this very reason. Anyway Martin Stanhope from Subway seemed impressed. Mind you, I got the impression that he thought I was having him on when after

The 'other' Cirkewwa Arch

Conrods on the M.V. Odile.

eight minutes of swimming across Kalkara Creek we'd seen nothing. Then suddenly out of the gloom the wreck jumped out at us. And it is big, deceptively so, for such a waterway. small We looped round the deck and attempted to go through some holes in the plates, followed the big chains and, just as it was time to leave, I realized we'd found the engine room. The movie I shot on this wreck is on Facebook, but if you want to view it you probably have to 'ask to be my friend'. Sorry.



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Diver of the Month

Welcome back to Diver of the Month, after a few months (eh!) rest we are please to announce the DoM award is back.

This month runs from the start of the year, thus ruling out last years Events!!!

Our first nominee is no stranger to the DoM awards but has never yet won it, always the brides maids. However he does hold the record for number of nominations, Chris Griffith has been nominated again by a variety of people who shall remain nameless. This 'month' Chris inspired us with his yoyo technique of diving, as he has decided that remain constantly at a depth is boring and has decided to fluctuate his depth by up to 6m whilst fining ahead. Anyone who has dived with Chris will no this can be normal for him, however the real nomination comes from the fact he chose to ignore the changing rooms at Wraysbury and strip in the car park (he might have been told there were no changing rooms by his buddy) and then proceeded to waddle with Twinset, stage bottle, drysuit and FINS on across the car park to enter the water at the furthest point much to the disbelief of the Wraysbury dive community. Not only this but Chris also brought his own entourage, his girl friend and two mates who don't and won't dive witnessed this spectacle. Nice one Chris, but still not good enough.

We next come to the tale of Paul Brown, expert diver and all round club boy, it seems that Mr Brown, after years of abusing members of the club about compass work seems to have a had a lapses of concentration both below and above the water. Towards the end an early year Wraysbury dive, Paul surfaced for a bearing and then proceed way underwater leading his buddy back to shore, however after 15minutes of not reaching the shore, surfaced again and then once more for bearing only to end up in a wild corner of Wraysbury 400m from their entry point with a long surface swim back. If that wasn't enough he then for the

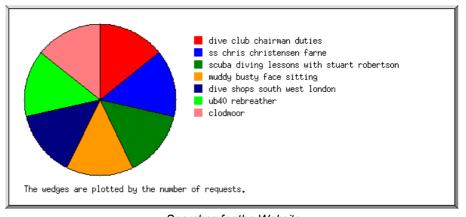
> successive year under took

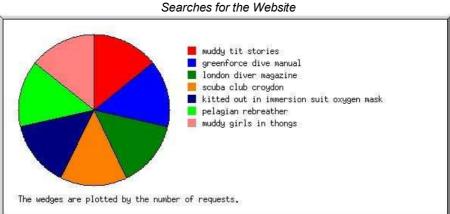
mission to the Dartmoor over Easter with his was ok, and he was. However upon surfacing partner in crime, and for the second year got it appeared that his drysuit had sprung a leak hopeless lost we are told, He'd bought a map, however Paul refused to bring a compass instead relying on his own instincts, stating before the event "My entire body is a compass". They got so lost they had to walk an extra 4miles back to the cars, Paul please see Mr Griffith about a GPS.

Next comes the tale of an elder statement of the club and should really know better, one a recent dive of relatively little depth our nominee dived in with 2 other experienced divers and proceeded to enjoy the good vis. After 40 minutes of diving he started acting very strangely, and began to gesticulate to his nether regions. His buddy seeming no obvious cause for concern continued on with the wish of completing an hour underwater. Our nominee continued to point and clutch at his crutch for several more minutes, Then a 60minutes they returned to the shot line, our nominee with a look of blissful satisfaction, only now did his buddy ask if he

on the inside, and wasn't full of sea-water but something very yellow. Sorry Tony 'Pampas' Ray no award for you either this month.

This month the award goes to a member of the club, who supplied both a boat full of divers and the skipper with a great deal of mirth. When preparing to enter the water buddy check sometime are forgotten, however this nominee got kitted up, and shot ready to jump in, the skipper screamed for everyone to check their zips and hoses, our nominee cast his eagle eye around the boat, trying to find someone not ready to jump in... However he forgot to check himself, he leaped into the water without his drysuit zip done up, and with one of his inflators disconnected. He proceeded to shriek and splutter to the look of disbelief from the onlooker aboard, once they were sure he was in no danger did the hilarity of the situation dawn on them. This month's DoM is Alan 'Flying Low' Lawrence.





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