

May 2011



The Frog

Produced by:

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Time for Celebration

Snorkelling Club of the Year 2010

In February 2011 the club was awarded third place in the Snorkel Branch of the Year 2010 award. This is the first time such an award has been made by BSAC and demonstrates its commitment to Snorkelling and the clubs that support this sport. To achieve this award we had to submit details on club membership, welfare policy, club activities (Fin Swimming, Octopush, Water Polo and underwater photography, expeditions), training and why we think our club is special. The statement we submitted was:

'The club has been geared towards families for 30 years; we are an inclusive club offering snorkelling opportunities to young and old. We try to inspire members to reach their potential, whether it is to be an Assistant Instructor, or support them completing a Duke of Edinburgh award.'

The club has a broad range of equipment to re-enforce the basic snorkelling skills, build confidence in the water and to keep members interested.'

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the club volunteers for their dedication to the club and remind all members that without them we would not have a club.



Anthony collecting the award at the Scuba show.

Session Time Change

As part of moving the club towards Clubmark accreditation we have been more open with our communications and distributing meeting minutes. You would have seen that the club has been facing financial challenges due to falling membership and increased pool hire fees. To try and reduce the club outgoings the committee has agreed to reduce our session time from 90 minutes to 60 minutes and have one session rather than two. This will save about a third of our pool hire fees but introduces challenges for the

instructors and members by having a busier single session.

From the Summer term, starting 01 May 2011, the session time will be 8:30—9:30 until further notice.

If you have any comments about this change please contact a member of the committee:

Tim Griffiths (Chairman)

Anthony Hulcoop (Club Secretary)

Gail Hurt (Volunteer Coordinator)

Graham Griffiths (Diving Officer)

Guy Dubois (Membership Secretary)

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Special points of interest:

- 2011 Dive Plan on the notice boards; sign-up sheet on the club reception desk.
- Look out for equipment sales on Sunday mornings during the session time. First sale **8 May**.
- Volunteers wanted to help promote the club Try Dive on Saturday **7 & 14 May**. Also, volunteers needed for the Try Dive event on **15 May**. Contact Gail for more details.
- Six week snorkelling courses are available for £50, this includes the £16 BSAC membership.
- Club Committee Meeting to be held on **3 July**.

New Pricing Structure

The club has historically charged the same subscription fee for both its adult and youth memberships. The club recognises that this pricing policy needs to change as the youth elements are being disadvantaged by the rising costs and they are the primary focus of the club.

The following membership levels have now been agreed by the Committee:

- Adult.
- Youth.
- Study/Development Concession.
- Qualified Junior Leaders/ Assistant Instructors.
- BSAC Qualified Instructor.

Note: For the Study/Development Concession you need to notify the Club Secretary (Anthony), before you start the term, that you are working towards an award.

For the Summer Term 2011 the membership fees will be:

- Adult - £47 (£2 increase)
- Youth - £45 (No Change)
- Concession - £40 (£5 reduction)
- Qualified - £22.50 (No Change)
- BSAC Qualified - £0 (No Change)

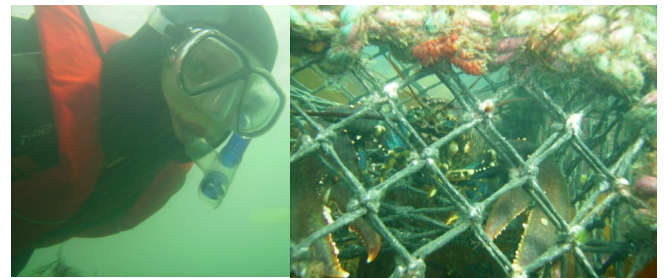
Note: A late payment fee of £5 will be levied if the subscription is not received within two weeks of the due date for all membership categories.

For more details on the study/development concession or feedback on the pricing structure talk to Anthony or a member of the committee.

Dive Season

All the training in the pool helps us prepare for the dive season where we can experience the wealth of sea life around the UK.

Some of last years highlights...



Wraysbury, Pagham, and Dorset day trips and the Swanage weekend sign-up sheets are on the reception desk. See Graham for more details.

NB: Club day trips are now £12.50, this price increase is to cover increased fuel costs.

Clubmark Update

A review of our club policies and procedures has meant changes to our constitution and the way we operate. The changes have been agreed through committee meetings and the club Annual General Meeting.

We still have work to do to build partnerships with local schools and the sports centre. We also need to plan club and instructor development; the new BSAC syllabus has still to be fully implemented.

At the appropriate point-in-time the club will be put through a Clubmark assessment and therefore we need to keep focused on improving the way the club is run and support its membership.

We have feedback forms available at the club reception desk for any comments or suggestions or talk to your instructor.

Swanage 2011

Time for Celebration

Our annual weekend trip to Dorset has been booked for
26-29 August 2011.

As usual we have full use of the excellent Leeson House activity centre and plan to have a number of exciting non-snorkeling activities scheduled throughout the weekend running alongside the dive plan.



For this four day weekend we have a fixed price of £137 per head, this represents good value as you get three nights accommodation, breakfast, dinner and the entertainment. Snorkellers will need to pay an extra £5 per day to cover dive costs such as boat fuel and launch fees.

This year we are allowing extended family and friends to join us; they can join in the non-snorkelling activities, this will allow them to explore more of the beautiful Dorset scenery above sea level while we explore below.

If you are interested in attending the Swanage weekend, let us know by email [DorkSnorkClub1@gmail.com] or by filling in the register at the club reception desk, or speak to your instructor for more information.