

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of **NOAHs DIVE CLUB** held at EFSA, Queensway, Gibraltar on the 15th day of March 2006.

Present:	Arthur Imossi	Chairman
	Manolo Bonfiglio	Training Officer
	Steve Campbell	Asst Training Officer
	Ian Bass	Boat Officer
	Sally Imossi	Membership Secretary
	Lesley Nuttall	Diving Officer
	Lorraine Crook	Social Secretary
	Heidi Larson	Asst Social Sec
	Pete Jackson	
	Shelly Hobbs	
	Ernest ??	
In Attendance	Odile Serra	Figurehead

1. CHAIRMAN

Arthur took the Chair, noted a quorum was present, and declared the Meeting open.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Steve M, Mark, Sarah, Ian Bon, Clive, Jackie and John.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2005 AGM

The Minutes of the AGM held on 8 March 2005 were approved, seconded and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 2005 AGM

It was agreed that matters arising from the previous AGM would be covered during the Meeting.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

- a. Arthur welcomed those present, thanking all members for the hard work in keeping the Club so active.

b. Positives:-

- (1) We continue to be an active diving and social club, with diving undertaken nearly every week, with the exception of the Christmas period.
- (2) All our members have reached the level of Sports Diver and above, and we have two overseas members in Sarah (who, due to work commitments can no longer be a full member) and Jo.
- (3) Our group of dedicated instructors, who have borne the brunt of all the training, have now been increased by three.
- (4) We have just started a new Ocean diver course, and a PADI crossover course. Welcome Ernest, Shelley & David to our Club.
- (5) We have been around for 10 years and our 10th Anniversary bash nearly finished us of. But we are still up and running and diving.
- (6) We have our own RIB and the engine, recently serviced, is running well.
- (7) All our many social events are well attended. Our South Africa holiday was unforgettable. As a Club we got on well together.
- (8) Our fund raising, whilst never too successful, hit the heights this year with a large profit and a great Christmas party at the Motorcycle Club. I think we should make this a yearly event.

In short I think a group hug is in order!

c. On the Negative Side:-

- (1) The berth fees at Queensway Quay are a drain on our resources at £174 per month. I spoke to The Cormorant Boat owners Club and there is a delay in arranging a berth for us as one of the pylons is loose and prior to placing more pontoons this has to be fixed. The good news is they confirm we will get a berth, the bad news is we don't know when, although Peter Jackson states the firm who attended to the original pylons.
- (2) We don't have our own premises. There is not much we can do about this.
- (3) We still have a £2,000 loan. Fortunately John Harrison is an exemplary lender who has never charged us interest and not pressed us for repayment. In fact I know that due to pressure of work he has asked to leave the Club I think it would be a nice gesture if we made him an honorary member. (All members being in agreement!).

d. The Way Forward:-

- (1) We need to continue doing what we do best, that's diving, for those who thought otherwise! We are a small club and so it is crucial that ALL our members take advantage of our facilities **and dive**. It would be good to see new faces on a Sunday morning!
- (2) Remember that at the end of this month the hour changes and we can go diving after work. Last year Wednesday dives were very successful, and will be continues this year.
- (3) I want to take this opportunity to send Jackie Hands, on behalf of the Club, our condolences on the death of her Father.

Finally I wish to thank all the Committee who have supported me and the Club so well over the last year. Much work goes into organising anything and it is due to their efforts that the Club is so successful.

6. DIVING OFFICER'S REPORT

Lesley reiterated thanks of Mr Chairman to all divers for making last year such a successful diving year, which included the Spectacular Diving Holiday to South Africa, several training courses, a couple of Tarifa trips, the Underwater Treasure Hunt, some joint dives with 317 and bonding with various guest divers, such as Julian, Bob, Jo, Mike & Tracey. We now have 18 full members (of which 11 are instructors!) and 2 overseas members.

a. Glad to report no major reportable incidents (to the BSAC), but a few lessons learned:-

- (1) Trying to cover two sites on one dive – Sally bravely battling a big sea with trainees close to shore and trying to drop divers on the 428! We won't try that one again!
- (2) Anchoring the boat in a 1.5m current – er NO!!
- (3) Ascending under an anchored boat – not advisable in a current!
- (4) CBLs – getting a lot of practice in here!!

SAFETY FIRST: NEVER DIVE BEYOND YOUR LIMITS & DON'T BE AFRAID TO SAY YOU DO NOT WANT TO CARRY OUT A DIVE.

b. Self Assessment Medicals need to be completed each year by each member. Please complete and pass to Sally asap.

c. To carry on in Mark's very popular tradition of the Leader Board (research done by Steve M, not Les by the way!):-

(1) This year 333 dives including South Africa Club Diving Holiday but NOT including training dives. Last year 252 club dives.

(2) Depth this year = 7.182km. Last year 5.5km.

(3) Total time underwater this year = 10,979 mins (182.98 hours). Last year 9,349 mins (155.82 hours).

(4) Leader Board:-

Les: 45 dives – 998.2m/1,520 mins

Art: 40 dives – 855.1m/1,431 mins

Steve M: 39 dives – 796.8m/1,300 mins

Sal: 35 dives – 770m/1,195 mins

Lor: 35 dives – 702.8m/1,005 mins - WELL DONE LORRAINE!!

Steve C: 27 dives – 614.7m/755 mins

Jackie: 21 dives – 513.1/610 mins

Nikolai: 17 dives – 346.8m/671 mins

Mark: 12 dives – 230m/583 mins

Ian Bass: 9 dives – 221.2m/230 mins

Clive: 174.9m/195 mins 8 dives -

Jo: 7 dives – 130m/278 mins

Julian: 6 dives – 158.7m/181 mins

Ian Bon: 5 dives – 137.7m/151 mins

Bob: 4 dives – 122m/112 mins

Manolo: 3 dives – 77.5m/86 mins

Sarah: 3 dives – 50.8m/119 mins

David: 2 dives – 50.8m/68 mins

Peter J: 2 dives – 31.1m/61 mins

Slightly more diving than last year, as 74 dives were in SA!
32 Boat Dives.

d. Next year I would like to see more divers, more dives, varied sites – fun to research these - something we have talked about for years –

Clive has new super computer?? And of course even more Instructors!

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jackie had advised Steve M regarding the Club Accounts for the period 8 March 2005 to 14 March 2006 showing cash at bank of £ 978.70, see attached.

8. TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT

a. Progress last year:-

- (1) Last year there were four candidates for the Sports Diver Course three of whom completed the course successfully, Loraine Crook, Jackie Hands and Ian Bonfiglio.
- (2) The four candidates who undertook the Dive Leader Course, Art, Sally, Nikolai and Steve M, completed the course successfully. Arthur, Sally & Steve subsequently went on to complete the Instructor Course so we have three new Club Instructors.
- (3) Loraine also completed the Search and Recovery Skills Development Course with 317.
- (4) Sally & Loraine completed the First Aid For Divers with 317.
- (5) Currently, we are running a new Ocean Diver Course. The lectures started last week and the practicals start this coming Sunday 19.3.06.

b. Looking ahead:-

- (1) We should run the Diver Coxswain Course later on in the year. This is something that we did not do last year but which we may be in a position to offer this year. Diver Coxswain course, with an external assessor. This was a big step up from boat handling and requires a candidate to have many hours' experience 'at the helm' before undertaking it.
- (2) We ought to consider running other Skill Development Courses, eg Search and Recovery Techniques, Dive Planning and Marshalling, Advanced Diving techniques.
- (3) We need to think about running a refresher Oxygen Administration Course, this is probably due now.
- (4) All members to undergo Rescue Training annually.

c. Conclusions. The club has once more run a successful and eventful training programme. Congratulations to all who have gained new

qualifications. Many thanks to all the students and finally a vote of thanks to all the instructors, without whose help and dedication training would be impossible.

9. VOTING IN OF NEW COMMITTEE

The present committee stood down and the following new committee was duly proposed, seconded and elected – after some arguing, cajoling and considerable bullying:-

Chairman	-	Arthur Imossi
Diving Officer	-	Lesley Nuttall
Treasurer	-	Jackie Hands
Secretary	-	Steve Marsden
Membership Secretary	-	Sally Imossi
Training Officer	-	Manolo Bonfiglio
Asst Training Officer	-	Steve Campbell
Social Secretary	-	Lorraine Crook
Asst Social Sec	-	Heidi Larson
Boat Officer	-	Ian Bass
Asst Boat Officer	-	Peter Jackson
Equipment Officer	-	Clive Bridgeman

The Club sincerely thanked the outgoing officers for their efforts.

10. COURSES

Progress covered in the Training Officer's Report.

There was discussion on various courses. Steve C can run Nitrox Courses in Spain for £110 as he is a qualified BSAC Technical Diving Instructor, but there is no Nitrox currently available in Gibraltar. Manolo added that dedicated equipment (cylinders/computers) plus gas analysing sets would be required and depths (MOD) could never be exceeded, so much more discipline required.

A reminder on course fees (from last AGM!):-

- Club Diver = £175
- Sports Diver fee = £50
- Dive Leader fee fro= £50
- Instructors on training courses = £5 per boat dive and Trainee's per boat dive = £15

11. BOAT

Arthur stated that on the whole Ginger was running extremely well! Ian had changed the rusted padlock securing the tanks and Clive had replaced the fuel connectors and tubes, which had eroded. Thanks guys!

- The new Fishfinder was not working and had been removed and returned to Med Marine for repair/replacement
- Deck hatch needs to be repaired

- c. Grease gun required to be maintained on the boat
- d. Fuel and oil to be checked by boat handlers on each dive
- e. Check list required for operation of the boat – Art agreed to provide
- f. Comments regarding problems with Ginger to be noted on the dive log for the day and relayed to the Boat Officers asap by the Boat Handler of the day.

12. FUND RAISING

More diving – more funds! However, Heidi still wants to do The (darn) Calendar – “Wrecks of Gibraltar” – come on then – organise!!

13. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a. Club Subs: Please let Sally have the £80 club fees soonest as we have John to repay and a very expensive berth!!!
- b. BSAC Subs: These are going up by £2.50 each diver instructor grade from 1 April 2006:-
 - (1) New Member = £45.50
 - (2) CI/OWI = £40.50
 - (3) AI = £35.50
 - (4) Abated = £30.50

14. BOAT DIVES – COSTS

It was again agreed to leave these at the current level, ie £10 per boat dive per Club member and £15 for Guest divers, although Instructors pay £5 and Trainees paying £15 on boat (**training**) dives.

15. CLUB PREMISES

Lesley has written to the Sports Development Unit on three occasions, without response. Doesn't seem very hopeful guys.

16. GIBRALTAR SUB-AQUA ASSOCIATION (“GSAA”)

Steve M & Danny Frione need to meet to agree a mutually agreeable Constitution for the three BSAC non profit making clubs.

17. EXPEDITIONS/HOLIDAYS/SOCIALS

All in all we have had a fantastic social year and by the looks of it, another one on the way!!!

- a. **Curacao:** 24 March – 3 April 06 - Jackie & Les.
- b. **Smir Rally:** 2-5 June 06. Names to Loraine.

- c. **Canos de Meca:** 12-15 May 2006. Names to Les.
- d. **Almunecar:** 23-24 June 2006. Lor, Les, Heidi, Ian, Odile, Shelly, Keith, Allan, Jo, Nadine and Steve M paid. Steve C to get names of best dive sites.
- e. **Smir Rally:** 6-9 October 06 for Steve M's birthday bash. Names to Loraine.
- f. **Spectacular Hol 2006:** Red Sea 13-22 October 2006, flights have to be booked by individuals separately from Gib or Malaga to London and from London to Sharm El Sheikh. The intention is to book hotel & diving from Camel Divers, see their website.
- g. **Heidi's 40th Bash:** 4 November 2006 (she can't be!!). Venue TBA.
- h. **Posh Christmas Do:** Sat 2 December 2006 at the Casino. Names to Loraine or Heidi, they will require £10 deposit as only table for 20 booked.
- i. **Joint Dive Club Games Do:** Sat 9 December 2006 at the Motor Cycle Club with live band 'Dirty Work'.
- j. **Skiing:** 15-17 December 2006.
- k. **New Year Sierra Nevada:** 29 December 2006 to 2 January 2007.
- l. **Spectacular Diving Holiday 2007:** Suggestions – Thailand (Les) / Galapagos (Art) / Malasia (Sal) / Tenerife (Manlolo) / Zanzibar (Steve C) / Maldives (Sal). Sudan and Cave Diving in Torquay were ruled out!

Note your diary with all the above please!

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Loraine has spoken to Michelle from the Clipper and she wants to join the Ocean Diver course. Bring her on!!
- b. Steve C reminded all members that while the course is running, the club will still be diving every week.
- c. Lesley advised that on Sunday 19 March 06 (the first water session of the Ocean Course) would also be a beach & underwater clean at Rosia Bay, followed by a BBQ on the beach, so bring net goodie bags, gloves and something to BBQ & drink!
- d. We still owe John approx £2,000 for the boat. So more diving folks!!!
- e. Pete Jackson has three cylinders which are out of test, which anyone can buy from him, to be donated to the Club – Thanks Pete! Go on Shelly – make him an offer!
- f. **Next meeting Tuesday, 11 April, 2006 at 1930pm at The Little Mermaid – our favourite meeting place.**

There being no further business the Meeting was terminated.

CHAIRMAN