

March 2005



## Editor's Comment

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Many thanks to everyone for your positive feedback on the new look Herald. Don't forget though, it needs your help to keep it interesting.

As Easter is fast approaching and the start of the new diving season looms please make sure that your kit is serviced and working properly.

Do take care and safe and happy diving.

Contact me on: [angela.ward@awardsforall.org.uk](mailto:angela.ward@awardsforall.org.uk)

## Trips/Activities Planned

### Paignton

25 March - 2 April

See Pete Shelton for details

### Anglesey

30 April - 2 May

See Steve Priestley for details

### Whitby

28 - 30 May

See Steve Priestley for details

### St Abbs

20 - 29 August

See Steve Priestley for details

### Selsey Bill

3 - 6 November

See Steve Priestley for details

*We're on the Web!*

*See us at:*

[www.scubanaut.co.uk](http://www.scubanaut.co.uk)



## Easter Dive Sites



### Bretagne

The Bretagne was transporting her cargo of coal from Barry, Wales to Rouen, France when she was hit near her stern by a steamer in thick fog in 1918. She is upright and quite well preserved. There is approx 3ft of silt and care must be taken not to disturb this.

Sea bed depth 30mtr

Top of wreck 18mtr

### Galacia

The Galacia was transporting her general cargo of cloth, cement and a small amount of ammunition when she hit a mine laid by a German UC class submarine just outside Teignmouth in 1917. She is very broken and covers a large area. She has large groups of fish around her and conger eels lurk in the shadows.

Sea bed depth 20mtr

Top of wreck 15 mtrs

### Perrone

The Perrone was a French cable laying ship heading towards Le Havre when she was torpedoed by a UC-65 in 1917. She is broken in midships and lies doglegged on the seabed.

Sea bed depth 36mtrs

Top of wreck 28mtrs

### Orestone

The Orestone stands approx 32 mtrs high and is surrounded by kelp covered rock inshore. This gives way to ledges, gullies and small caves. Plenty of fish life and swim throughs, can be made into a drift dive.

Sea bed depth 16mtrs

### Thatcher Rock

Less tide than Orestone. Similar terrain and aquatic life.

Sea bed depth 12mtr

### Morris Rouge Reef

This is a submerged rocky reef near Thatcher Rock. This reef makes a pleasant dive as there are lots of marine life to observe, crabs, starfish and the occasional flat fish.

Sea bed depth 14mtrs

### Tuckers Rock

Rocky gullies with a scenic wall on the north face with lots of marine growth and even the odd lobster.

Sea bed depth 20mtr

### Brixham Breakwater

A lot of sea life sole, scallops, pipefish and crabs. A possible night dive.

Sea bed depth 10mtr





## Easter Sight-Seeing

**Crealy Adventure Park, Exeter** - Where magic and adventure in six unique realms create an unforgettable day.

**River Dart Adventures, Ashburton** - 90 acres packed with adventure playgrounds, lakes and 'Dare Devil' adrenaline filled activities, yet has the tranquility of riverside and woodland walks.

**Seaton Tramway** - Journey through East Devon's beautiful Axe Valley by open top or enclosed tramcar.

**Bygones, Torquay** - victorian street of shops and period rooms, giant model railway and railway collection, interactive and illuminated children's fantasy land, multi sensory World War 1 trench and militaria collection.

**Paignton Pier** - Modern family entertainment centre with a traditional British seaside holiday atmosphere whatever the weather.

**Paignton Zoo Environmental Park** - Explore the world's threatened habitats and discover a new breed of zoo.

**Babbacombe Model Village** - Literally hundreds of 1/12 scale models set in award-winning gardens. A photographer's paradise.

**Kents Cavern, Torquay** - Britain's most important Palaeolithic (old stone age) cave system and famous throughout the world for its wealth of archaeology and geology.

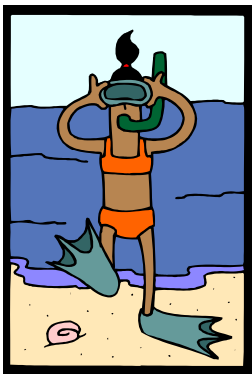
**Woodlands Leisure Park, Totnes** - All weather fun - guaranteed! 60 acres of action for a full day of variety.

**Dartmouth Castle, Dartmouth** - Stands in a superb water's side location, guarding the entrance to the Dart estuary. Magnificent battlement views and a fascinating history.

**Totnes Castle, Totnes** - One of the best surviving examples of a Norman motte and bailey castle and has commanding views of Totnes, the River Dart and the surrounding area.

**Plant World, Newton Abbott** - Four acres of landscaped gardens representing each of the five continents, A large mature cottage garden and Mediterranean garden completes the collection.

*"lakes and 'Dare Devil' adrenaline filled activities"*



## Training Dates

If you require training or are interested in specific diving courses, please let Chris Chew know.



## Weymouth February 2005



Now yes, we all thought, a diving trip in February yeh right!!! But with our great English weather you never know, so 14 of our intrepid Scubonauts set off for a weekend in Weymouth. We stayed at the Royal Breakwater hotel which for situation to launch site gets 100% and the food was excellent and reasonable although I was not quite as enamoured by the gurgling pipes at seven in the morning or the trek to the loos (no en suite - so uncivilised). Friday night was a blast with people arriving in dribs and drabs and slowly getting more sozzled (nothing new there then).



To liven things up the girls suggested a nice friendly game of skittles (do they know what club they belong to?). All started well although some throwing techniques were more amusing than others but the objective was being achieved with many a skittle meeting its maker. The only down side was that 2 people had to stay in a very small hole at the bottom to reset the skittles and return the balls (we took it in turns). As the lubrication got well under way some liberties were taken in the "waiting until the skittles were set up, balls returned and person safely in hole" department resulting in a lot of nifty dance manoeuvres to avoid oncoming, fast moving balls. At 10.30pm a timely visit from a member of staff to say we were keeping people awake brought an end to the proceedings. Next it appeared time for those left standing to try a let's drink the most expensive shorts competition with only one person standing out a clear winner, Mr Priestley.



Saturday morning and what's this, all those diving are at breakfast at 7.15am and rearing to go although a certain someone looks a little rough. One look at the sea conditions tells me not to rush, I'm keeping this breakfast in my tummy and if I go out there that's going to be highly unlikely. As the weather worsened the diving was called off but the boat was launched so the newbies could have a ride, oh to be so new at club diving! People's spirits did lift a little at watching the hard boat struggle to go out (you have paid you're going) and then come back a couple of hours later with views from the divers of crap dive no viz wish we hadn't gone.



The group decided to visit the local castle apparently its very close and also shut!!! So new plans were made for the rest of the afternoon with some going into Weymouth and others opting for a more Angela/Gary afternoon with a hike up to the citadel which we could see nestled on the top of a cliff above the hotel, followed by a steady plod back down via the pubs. It turned out to be a very pleasant afternoon, sun shining, wind blowing a gust and a few amusing bits thrown in - you have to see a prison officer go up to the citadel doors (the citadel turned out be a category C prison) make banging gestures on said doors to get in and then have the sirens wail out and see him run - very funny trust me.

After another night of libation and good food we arose to the weather much the same with added rain so decided to make a dash for home, all in all a very pleasant weekend that I would gladly repeat diving or not.