



---

**Issue 26  
February,  
2003**

---

[www.swale-divers.org.uk](http://www.swale-divers.org.uk)

### ***Happy New Year to all Swale Divers***

Welcome to the first edition of the Club magazine for 2003. We hope to report on social and fundraising events, Committee meetings, Club training, as well as forthcoming dives planned. If you feel the Club would benefit from any useful bits of information or articles etc, or you have any ideas regarding the magazine, please let me, Jayne Payne, the Magazine Editor, know either via e-mail or at the pool on Saturdays or via Trevor at The Woolpack pub, Iwade on Tuesday evenings.

As most of you are aware, the magazine is sent out via e-mail or post. If you have not done so already, please let me know which option you would prefer.

### **Swale Divers AGM 2003**

The AGM took place on Tuesday, 28 January at 8pm at The Woolpack, Iwade. The AGM Minutes are produced as a separate article attached.

### **Dive Planning Meeting - Tuesday, 25 February at The Woolpack, Iwade at 8pm**

In order for the Dive Planning Meeting to be successful, we need Club members to volunteer to plan and organise dives for both Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year to allow everyone use of the Club RIB. Anyone is welcome to plan a dive and as always, any of the Advanced members will be happy to assist you with the planning.

### **Committee meeting - Wednesday, 5 March at 8pm at Gaynor's house**

All Club Officers are requested to attend a Committee meeting to discuss various Club issues. Anyone in the Club who would like to raise a point for the Committee to consider should contact the Chairman, Nigel Woolley.

### **Seasearch - Canterbury Dive Club**

Nigel Woolley received an e-mail from Jon Bramley at Canterbury Divers re the Seasearch program, which

involves divers recording marine wildlife on their dives. Seasearch Kent is at a very early stage but it is planned that a number of training days will be held in Kent on marine life identification and survey techniques and also some planned Seasearch dives. There is also the opportunity for participants to obtain a qualification in marine life identification. For further information contact Jon Bramley or [www.seasearch.org.uk](http://www.seasearch.org.uk).

### **Tenerife diving holidays**

Majesty Global Services S.L. sent Nigel Woolley details of their diving holidays at Aparthotel Tagara in Playa Arena in the South of Tenerife. The resort has self-catering apartments for 4-6 people with pool and snack bar. They offer a tailor made diving package to suit your needs supplied by their Aqua Passion Diving Club. Anyone interested in further details please contact Jayne Payne.

**Can I wish you all happy and safe diving in 2003.**

## *Swale Divers - Profile*

Name:	<i>Trevor Payne</i>
Age/Family:	<i>36/Married to Jayne with 2 children, Jessica and Mark</i>
Number of years diving:	<i>Since 1991</i>
Diving qualifications/ Club appointments:	<i>Advanced, Nitrox Diver, BSAC Lifesaver Award, Marine Radio Operation, Boat Handling, Oxygen Administration Club Secretary 1996-98, Boat Manager 1997 to date</i>
Best diving experience:	<i>Diving with nurse sharks at Foster, NSW, Australia</i>
Worst diving experience:	<i>Having my nice new dry suit leak, being seasick and being tossed around on a fishing boat named "Our Phyllis" for 2 hours outside Lulworth Cove, Dorset. Not a pleasant diving experience</i>
Location would most like to dive:	<i>Australia again</i>
Occupation/Other interests:	<i>Industrial Refrigeration Engineer/Due to house renovation, playtime is at a premium!! Sailing (maybe one day)</i>

\*\*\*\*\*

## **SWALE DIVERS AGM 2003**

**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN  
MINUTES OF LAST AGM (MAIN POINTS)  
REPORTS FROM OTHER OFFICERS (D.O./TREASURER/SECRETARY/ETC)  
ANY OTHER BUSINESS  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Chairman: Nigel Woolley**

Welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Nigel Bicknell, Sean Foulger and Mark Stevens. Nigel ran through the main points of the 2002 AGM Minutes (which can be found in Issue 23 - January 2002 of the Club magazine). Thanks to:

- George and Gaynor for allowing their house to be used as the venue for the 4 Committee meetings that took place during 2002;
- Nigel Harrison for organising the burger and drinks stall at the Upchurch Bonfire night;
- Colin Nagi and Jerry Lewry and their wives for organising 2 Quiz Nights, the Summer Ball on 20 July at the Yacht Club and a very enjoyable Christmas party at

the Co-Steel Club on 7 December; and

- Kim Ashbee for arranging the Turkey dive holiday and producing Club T-shirts.

**REPORTS**

**Diving Officer (D.O.): Nigel Bicknell**

In the D.O.'s absence, Nigel Woolley reported that there were no incidents to report. Nigel Bicknell felt he did not give enough time to the role of D.O. during 2002 and that now due to further work commitments he was standing down. Presented the Diving Officer's award to Kim Ashbee for all her hard work and enthusiasm in producing Club T-shirts and organising Club diving holidays and

also attended the Instructors Training Course.

**Treasurer: Nigel Harrison**

The year-end closing balance was an increase in cash on the opening balance. October Quiz Night and Christmas party proceeds were still to be added. Bonus Ball sales, February Quiz Night, the Summer Disco and the Firework Night all raised money for the Club. Boat repairs and maintenance costs were mainly gearbox rebuild. Money was spent on equipment and pool costs (including Maidstone pool). A thank you gift was awarded to Jerry for all his fundraising efforts. Summary of accounts is available on request from Nigel Harrison.

**Secretary: Graham Ashbee**

Nothing to report.

**Training Officer: Graham Pettett**

Lots of training had taken place during the year and thanks were given to those Instructors who helped the Sports Diver training event go so well. Club members were encouraged to attend at least 1 skills development course, which are now available. Congratulations to Kim Ashbee and Nigel Woolley for completing the Instructors Training Course. Graham handed out a list of training events for February at the meeting. This included attending the opening of the new "National Diving Centre" in Chepstow on Saturday, 22 February. There were many worthy cases for the Training Officer's Award this year but Anne Mangan was presented with the Award for her achievement in reaching Club Diver after several set backs and is now on her way to being a Sports Diver.

**Equipment Officer: George Flint**

Most of the Club kit has been accounted for.

**Membership Secretary: Gaynor Wilson**

A new Membership List was handed out at the AGM. **Any amendments should be given to Gaynor as soon as possible.**

**Magazine Editor: Kim Ashbee**

The new style Information Sheet/Bulletin was produced in January, March and May last year and thanks were given to Jayne Payne who typed it and arranged for distribution. The magazine was sent out via e-mail to most Club members as a link to a private page on the Club Website and by post to those members without e-mail addresses. Due to the arrival of Mark Payne at the end of April, there were no further editions during 2002. Due to work commitments, Kim handed over full

responsibility for the publication of the magazine to Jayne.

**Events/Fund Raising Officers:****Gerry Lewry/Colin Nagi**

Quiz Nights had taken place on 24 February and 20 October and both were well supported. The Summer Ball took place on 20 July at the Yacht Club and the Christmas Party was held on 7 December at the Co-Steel Club. **Events for 2003 were to be organised.**

**Boat Manager: Trevor Payne**

The boat was used 7 times during the year at Dover and Littlehampton. The gearbox failure was repaired in January but the boat was sent back because of poor performance. This was found to be due to injectors not being fitted correctly and was repaired in March. The boat worked well until the end of August when due to the starter motor sticking the engine would not start. This was striped down and serviced in September and is now working again.

Thanks should have been given at the AGM to those Club members who took part in the "Digging party" in April and the "concreting party" at Trevor's house. Once again, many thanks to all who helped.

**Engine Fund Raising Officer: Sean Foulger**

Nothing to report due to absence.

**Swimming Pool Liaison: Colin Johnson**

The Council has budgeted for £1m towards the refurbishment of Sheerness Swimming Pool over the next 2 years being 2004/2005. We need to monitor the situation very closely and watch to see if there is a squeeze on the budget. **Colin would continue to keep us up to date.** The Club would need an alternative pool for at least 9 months for training purposes. **The Committee should be**

**actively looking for a new pool as a matter of importance.**

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS****1. New engine for Club RIB**

Nigel Woolley and Trevor Payne visited the Boat Show on 12 January to gather information regarding various engines and current prices. Trevor prepared a detailed comparisons chart, which was handed out at the AGM. Trevor ran through the various options available to the Club and after a short discussion it was agreed by all that the Club would purchase the Yamaha 150 HPDI new type 2 stroke engine from Power Products Marine and part exchange the old engine with them. Hydraulic steering would also be required. The Club had money available to spend and the remaining money would be borrowed from several Club members. As the new engine needed 20 hours of running time and a service before it could be used for diving purposes, it was agreed that **Trevor should arrange to purchase the engine from Power Products Marine as soon as possible.**

**2. Diver ERPLB and Crewguard Receiver**

Nigel Woolley raised this item. An ex-member of the Club can supply man overboard Emergency Response Personal Locator Beacons ("ERPLBs") and an onboard receiver. The ERPLBs can be worn without obstruction during a dive and once armed and activated the onboard receiver on a boat can pick up the signal transmitted. Search and rescue helicopters, planes and lifeboats can also pick up the signal on their own equipment. The ERPLBs have a flashing antenna to be more visible in the water. The cost is per ERPLB and the onboard receiver. The Club could

- purchase an onboard receiver for the Club RIB and 6 ERPLBs, which could then be hired out to Club members on a dive. This is perhaps something that should be considered by the Club at a later date if a grant application is successful. For further details contact Nigel Woolley who has purchased one for his own personal use.
3. **Club equipment**  
An e-mail was sent out to Club members asking for Club kit to be returned to George so that checks can be made on service requirements before the new dive season.
  4. **Grant application**  
**It was agreed that a sub-Committee would be set up consisting of Nigel Woolley, Graham Ashbee and Nigel Harrison to seriously look at completing a grant application.**
  5. Nigel Woolley had various letters containing information he felt Club members may find interesting:
    - a. Tenerife diving holidays with Majesty Global Services S.L.;
    - b. Canterbury Dive Club are helping to organise a Seaserch program in Kent.

- A number of training days on marine identification and survey techniques are planned.
- Further information for both these points can be found in the Club magazine.
6. If you have not already purchased boat vouchers, these are a worthwhile investment and a good way of raising Club funds. All boat dives must be paid for in advance with boat vouchers. Contact Nigel Harrison for the vouchers.
  7. Nigel Woolley wrote a letter of complaint to the Council regarding Sheerness Swimming Pool. Points were raised about the fire exit doors being left open by staff in preparation for a swimming gala, which resulted in Club members being extremely cold during our session, dirty conditions of the changing rooms, the low level of the water in the Swimming Pool and the injury to Trevor's foot in the Reception area. A reply has been received but several points were not answered satisfactorily. **Nigel will follow this up with another letter.**

8. Graham Pettett had received an e-mail from Dr Jules Eden, Diving Doctor, to say that the Recompression Chamber in St Johns Wood, London is available to anyone without charge. They do however log incidents. (Graham also had a copy of the BSAC Incidents Report 2002 if anyone wanted to look at it.)
9. Nigel Woolley has details of a project advertising for investment to fund a treasure hunt.
10. Graham Pettett announced there is a new dive shop opening next to Moat Park Swimming Pool, Maidstone. They are mainly concentrating on training at the moment but Swale Divers can obtain air fills and Nitrox fills.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Graham Pettett agreed to take on the D.O. role with Roy Povey as reserve D.O. while Graham is away for 3 months from 26 February. Graham would also continue to be Training Officer with Kim Ashbee and Nigel Woolley as reserve Training Officers when Graham is away. Jayne Payne is now the Magazine Editor.

#### **2003 OFFICERS**

D.O.	:	GRAHAM PETTETT (RESERVE – ROY POVEY)
CHAIRMAN	:	NIGEL WOOLLEY
SECRETARY	:	GRAHAM ASHBEE
TREASURER	:	NIGEL HARRISON
TRAINING OFFICER	:	GRAHAM PETTETT (RESERVE – KIM ASHBEE/NIGEL WOOLLEY)
EQUIPMENT OFFICER	:	GEORGE FLINT
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	:	GAYNOR WILSON
MAGAZINE EDITOR	:	JAYNE PAYNE
FUND RAISING OFFICER	:	SEAN FOULGER
EVENTS ORGANISERS	:	JERRY LEWRY/COLIN NAGI
BOAT MANAGER	:	TREVOR PAYNE
SWIMMING POOL LIAISON	:	COLIN JOHNSON

