

# Free Flow

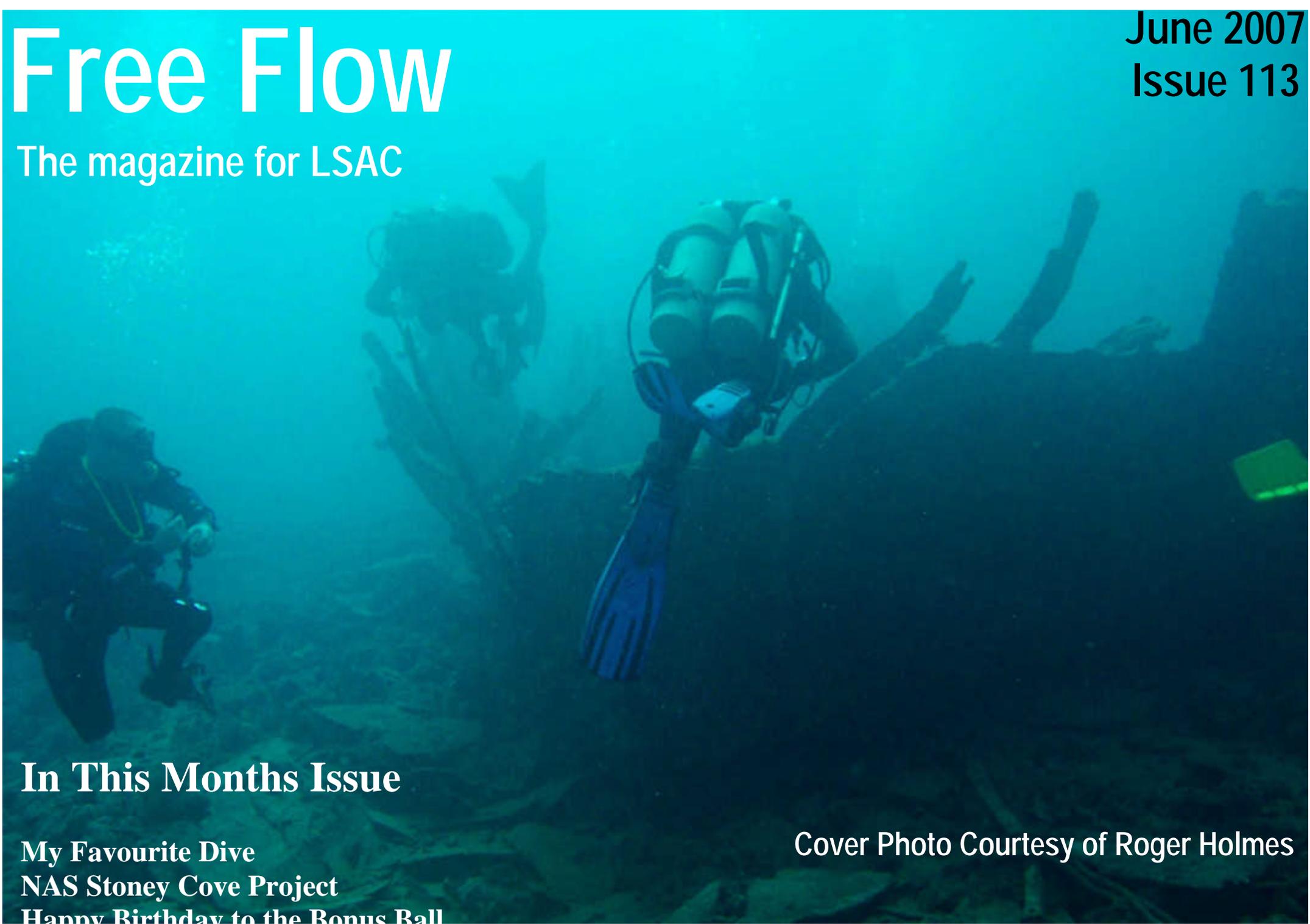
The magazine for LSAC

June 2007  
Issue 113

## In This Months Issue

My Favourite Dive  
NAS Stoney Cove Project  
Happy Birthday to the Bonus Ball

Cover Photo Courtesy of Roger Holmes



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Free

It should be

# Free Flow

## Editors Bit...



Having just seen the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pirates of the Caribbean and hide behind the sofa from Davy Jones I'm mighty relieved to see that the actor playing Davy Jones was none other than our very own Pete Hennessey.

### Buddies

Life is all about "take-away's". Yes I know you all think I'm mad but occasionally I can get a little philosophical. So what the hell am I talking about.

Well as I was contemplating the Friday night "take-away", often preceded by what shall we have Indian or Chinese, namely strong and spicy v's sweet and sour.

In recent weeks life has been dominated by sweet and sour. Sweet: with the dive season under full swing lots of getting wet, lots of socialising and generally feeling good with the world. Sour: several members of the club going through periods of ill health souring the dive season not only for themselves but loved ones as well.

Our thoughts are with all members currently not able to dive and I hope before too long for us to be dominated by "Strong and Spicy"

Ed.

# Page 3 Luvlies

Free Flow  
June 2007



One of this month's luvlies is more chilled than the other, the other is not as grumpy as first appearances might suggest.

If you would like to become Miss or Mr July. or know someone who should be, then please email me with the photo and a brief description of why the person should be a page 3 lovely. [pete.barnard@power.alstom.com](mailto:pete.barnard@power.alstom.com)

# Chairmans Knock

The UK dive season is well underway and we have had a few successful trips run so far with plenty more to come (but there are still plenty of weekends the boats are available).

BSAC have launched a new DVD to showcase the best of UK diving as part of their Go-Dive campaign which is aimed at encouraging exiting qualified divers into BSAC branches. I have a copy and will bring along to the club on Tuesday nights if anyone would like to borrow it.

Many of you will know that Su has been ill recently and has unfortunately had to resign as treasurer (thanks Su for all your hard work so far), Ian has volunteered to carry on with the job until the AGM in September and this appointment was agreed at the recent committee meeting. I'm sure all our thoughts and best wishes are with Su and Neil.

Membership numbers have fallen slightly below the 80 mark and so this years try dive event is going to be important. A number of ideas were tabled at the recent committee meeting and members will be asked for their help and support to make it a success. If you have any good ideas and are willing to help please drop me an email or

catch me at the club (the try dive dates are on the website calendar). If you have anyone interested in a try dive remember you can bring them along any club night.

Richard Sykes is continuing to update the club website and is still a few photos short for members on the rogues gallery, so please send a preferred photo.

We have had a very busy interest night schedule so far this year and I am currently looking at planning out the next six months. If you have any ideas or would like to put on an interest night talk then please contact me. Unfortunately Steve has had to cancel his talk on diving the Salutay but has promised to rearrange for later in the year – definitely one to look forward to.

## What's On

19/6	-	Northern Ireland - Steve	CANCELLED
26/6	-	Vietnam - Richard G.	
3/7	-		
10/7	-		

Regards

Chairman Roj [scubaroj@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:scubaroj@tiscali.co.uk).



# Dobbin's Corner

Well, May has started well with the NAS course.

Ian having read last months Dob decided that it must be summer as well, and jumped in with his Pee zip

open, he did get out rather quickly.

Pete Hennessey not to be outdone since he was Ian's buddy, asked one of the NAS chaps to turn in his neck seal, whoops, it was left as a bit of a roll collar, and in went the water, another one on a bit of a summer dive.

Erica, decided that it was also time for summer and in putting on her dry suit ripped a chunk out of her wrist seal! But then decided that summer hadn't quite come and didn't jump in.

Since then very little has happened or been reported, the occasional piece of forgotten kit, but that's about it. So I thought instead we could have some photos of some strange kitting up positions.



Identities have been hidden at this stage to save embarrassment until the people in the photos wish to be identified or want to explain their actions.

Are these new types of dance moves being practised in preparation for next years dinner dance?



## **June 2007 – D.O.s Bit**

Firstly congratulations to all of those who have recently qualified as Ocean and Sports Divers.

Assuming that you are eager to get into the sea there are plenty of trips available this year for all grades. If you are not on one and want to be, see me, and if there isn't a suitable trip, I will make sure that one is arranged.

An apology to those who's training has been a little slow. Despite there being a healthy number of Instructors in the Club, we have been a little short on Tuesday evenings. I am addressing this matter now and the situation will improve.

In early September we have a Try Dive, which will take place on two Tuesday evenings. I know that it is a long way off, but we are already making plans. We will be advertising and doing the usual stuff in Lutterworth.

New A4 posters will be available for everyone to display at work etc. and Richard Sykes is updating the website which will include details and an email link. However, our most successful method of attracting new members by far is by word of mouth via existing members. We have a regular flow of people for ad hoc Try Dives on Tuesday evenings, many of who join.

Whilst we will never turn people away, and will often put on unscheduled courses, if we can steer people towards the Try Dives it would be a great help.

The boats are now in good shape thanks to Ian who has put an enormous amount of work into them over the past few months. Let's try and fill all of the vacant weekends over the summer.

Nigel

## **June 2007 – T.O.s Bit**

### Training

Well done to all that have passed the exams over the last few weeks.

Its been very busy over the last few months and with no sign of a let up for myself and the instructors putting in lots of time in the class room, pool and open water. And on that note many thanks to the instructors we should remember no instructor gets paid for this, we just do it for the love, appreciation, thanks and maybe the very rare drink (not before the dive) from an admiring trainee.

I must say on a sunny day its quiet nice being a body and dragged around Stoney Cove with the sound of heavy breathing from a trainee in your right ear, looking forward to being hauled up the slip way and hoping no garlic from the night before, looking to the skies and thinking what am I doing this for. Of course the answer is for good old LSAC god bless it.

### The Problem With Exams

The main reasons for exam failures are:-

- 1 Not revising
- 2 Not reading the questions correctly
- 3 Not understanding the questions
- 4 Ambiguous questions, and even more ambiguous multi-choice answers

1 & 2 are the full responsibility of the trainee 3 & 4 if you do not understand ask the instructor I have found that reading through the questions and answers with the trainee can mean the difference between a pass or failure.

Example. Recently a trainee failed getting 17 out of 30, after reading through the paper with that person, and taking a little more time we gained a pass of 27 out 30.

Remember the qualification is a very small part of being a good and safe diver. It takes practice and experience so take advantage of the many experienced divers in the club and carry on with the learning process as we all are from Ocean to Advanced diver we are all learning.

We are into the diving season with trips underway and many planned. Remember plan the dive, dive the plan or if you are not happy when you get to the site change the plan even if it means no dive.

Richard Green



# *My favourite dive*

## **RMS Justicia**

My favourite dive has to be a wreck called the Justicia. She was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest liner sunk during the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. Originally she was called the Statendam. She was launched on June 9<sup>th</sup> 1914. In 1915 it was decided that she would be used as a troop ship, she would carry 4000 troops. She was also given a new name "Justicia".

She was on her way from Belfast to New York, 23 miles south of Skerryvore she was hit by a torpedo, she refused to sink and while being escorted towards Loch Swilly she was hit again by 2 torpedoes, again she didn't sink. The following day she was hit again by another two torpedoes, this time she sank in 70 meters of water.

A few years ago I was invited on a trip on Salutay, a liveaboard which operated out of Port Patrick. It was a mixed gas trip and the aim was to dive some of the liners and submarines off Malin Head.

The weather was good and bad, one day we had a force 9 which lasted 24 + hours. The good thing about deep diving is that no matter the weather the underwater vis isn't stirred up.

After the first 30 meters your eyes become used to the light, Al Wright had put the shot midships near the fireman's tunnel, which made it very

easy to navigate round the wreck. It's too big to dive as one dive, so we concentrated on the bow section. Even the wooden decking was still in place, and as we swam of the front of the bow looking back the sight was awesome. The Justicia had a "Titanic" bow which was totally intact with both the anchors still in place.

When you have 50 meters plus vis it feels like you are flying over the wreck. As we started back up the shot like , we could still see the wreck at 40 meters with the other divers looking like tiny ants moving around the bottom.

I've dived the wreck several times since then and she's never disappointed me, there's always something more to see.

Last time there was a huge male seal, swimming around through the huge shoals of fish. This is one wreck I dive every time I get the opportunity, which sadly is quite rare.



**Fran Duinker**

## **The NAS Stoney Cove Project 2007** By Mary Pearson/Peter Hennessey.

Well, there we were; a motley crew all sitting nervously (coffee and tea in hand) at the top of the new Stoney Cove Building wondering what we had let ourselves in for... !! I'm sure we all had our own ideas of what we wanted to get out of not only the course, but the weeks project at the Cove; I certainly had, But, I didn't expect it to have such an impact on me as it did.

The intro. Part of the course gave us an idea of just how difficult and costly archaeology really is, we also had some fascinating lectures from members of the NAS on various subjects inc. conservation, the minefield of the legal side and touching on the wide variety of projects which the NAS are and have been involved in (not to mention Crannogs ...!).

Our first taste of actually trying to measure objects in real water didn't seem too difficult. It wasn't until Ian allocated us our tasks and being in the Cove with a 'Blob' attached, trying to sketch and then measure something which wasn't quite square in poor visibility; the previous statement was retracted..! During the week the team was at the Cove we logged over 700 hours of diving and discovered quite a number of articles which clearly related to the Cove 's history of Quarrying. It is the intention of LSAC to carry on with surveying The Cove under the NAS Project.



Our thanks go to Marge Baldwin and her Team at Stoney Cove for their invaluable help during the week and also to the Stoney Stanton Heritage Trust for research and information supplied. Also many thanks for the help and enthusiasm from members of the NAS especially Ian Barefoot and Dave Johnston.

Mary Pearson

NAS/SCP2007/A – After six days, twelve (personal) dives and innumerable pieces of paper this Project Code is, like my army number, burned indelibly into my psyche. Add the fact that my last dive on this project was number 100 in my logbook and it makes quite a week, with some interesting discoveries and a moment of inspiration when the blindingly obvious suddenly became clear.

The project team consisted of Ian Barefoot, Mark Beatie Edwards, Kerrie Netherway our English Crayfish expert ( i.e. the *crayfish* are English), John Drake, Niel Calver, Ian Jennings, Mary Pearson, Erica Clarke, Phil Turney, Phil Litchfield, Pete Woodcock and John Castleford, these last 9 all members of Lutterworth SAC and several others who all had just completed the Mini summer school the previous weekend. Sue Calver assisted with paperwork. Veterans of other NAS campaigns appeared at various times throughout the week to bolster the team, some for a day or so,

others all week. Oh, and me too! Every moment counts, Ian reckoned there were 402 wo/man hours on the project with about 45 hours of diving. A phenomenal workrate, well done all!

LSAC also provided safety boat cover for the two evening dive sessions and two able Cox's in Nigel Spickett and Peter Barnard. Thanks Guys!

Working alongside the NAS team were Alison Jackson and Sue Astill from Stoney Stanton Heritage Group, David Lyne And David Ramsey from Leics Industrial Archaeology Society and Leics Quarries Historical group providing invaluable background information and local knowledge. Mention must be made of the invaluable support and encouragement Margaret Baldwin and the staff of the NDC gave us at all times, we couldn't have achieved half what we did without them. Thanks Margaret!

Most of us had been in "The Cove" more times than we care to remember and thought we knew it inside out but it's an eye opener when you start to look at something with your Archaeogoggles on. We found loads of railway line in numerous places, most of it buried, courtesy of Mike X (one of the NAS Veterans) and his u/w metal detector. He used this with a survey method using about a zillion 30m tapes set out on the quarry floor and the inevitable pencil and board. Top quality stuff! Crayfish were seen setting new world depth records (we surveyed and recorded these as part of the project, Stoney being one of the main habitats in the UK for these endangered and protected little animals). Also chain and bucket elevator foundations and remains, winch drums, and various buildings. One of these provided my own 'eureka moment'. While copying a plan drawn underwater of the 4m blockhouse onto a clean piece of paper the realisation dawned that this structure, which I had swum over on many occasions and assumed to be some form of winch control house, could only be a weighbridge. This was later confirmed by a local resident, whose father had worked in the quarry many years before.

This was my first NAS project, and it was thoroughly enjoyable hard work. I think it's fair to say that we all felt part of the team and valued for our contributions, from the newest trainees to the old hands with more qualifications than you can shake a crayfish at. Which you aren't allowed to do by the way, did I mention they are protected? The work in the cove isn't finished by a long way, and we hope to continue the survey for some time to reach a definitive position, although even then there will always be something more to discover. Next time you plan a dive or two at the NDC and fancy a bit more interest, get in touch with Mary Pearson or me, we can probably point you towards something we want more info on. Happy Archaeologging !

Pete Hennessey

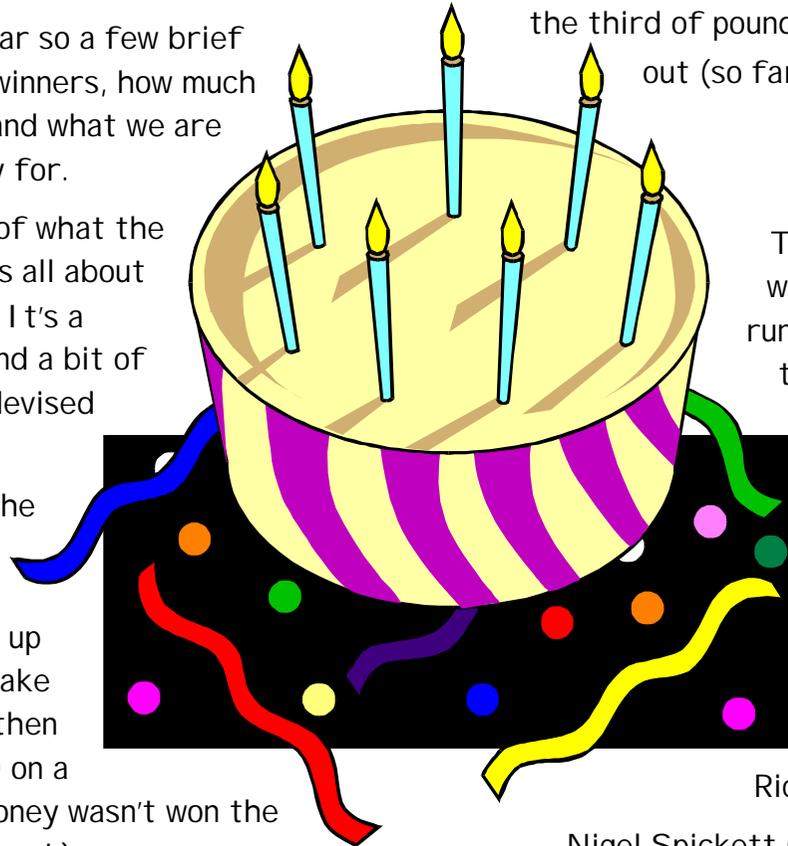
# Happy Birthday to The Bonus Ball Competition

Yes it's been going a year so a few brief comments on the major winners, how much we've collected so far and what we are using the money for.

But first an explanation of what the Bonus Ball Competition is all about for any newcomers. It's a fundraising activity - and a bit of fun, which Mike Flatt devised and put into place.

Put simply; guess what the bonus ball will be in Saturday draw of the National Lottery, back up your guess with a £1 stake and if you are correct, then you win £25 - or £37.50 on a rollover week (i.e. the money wasn't won the previous week).

OK down to money! The total money collected in this first year was **£1844.96**. (If you are wondering where the 96p came from (?) Well some of us pay monthly by standing order (it's much easier and you don't forget!) and so we pay for 4 and a third entries each month and then there's all the odd change from



the third of pound and it all adds up!) The monies paid out (so far - see below) is **£825** which leaves just over **£1000**.

However...

There was a break in giving out the winners (whilst we changed who was running the competition) so to correct this oversight the following will be given out at the next meeting:

Roger Holmes - Twice in February - £50.00

Fran Duinker Once in February - £25.00

Barry Walford Once (Rollover) in March - £37.50

Richard Sykes Once in April - £25.00

Nigel Spickett Once (Rollover) in April - £37.50

Dave Wilson Once (Rollover) in May - £37.50

So you can see we will now have paid out **£1027.50** leaving **£807.46**.



We decided to use the money to purchase an Oxygen set with this money and this is underway.

Yes I know it's an uninspiring thing to buy, it's one of those things you hope never to use, but if you need it you certainly want one to be there. This will mean that we will now have three Oxygen sets, one for each boat and now one for shore diving as well. I'm sure the new set will be shown to the club when all the bits are here and assembled (it's a bit different (better?) than our other two sets!). Hopefully the other two sets can be upgraded with what is left after buying the new set.

So who were the lucky winners? Well the luckiest number, coming up 5 times was No 38 - which ironically was one of the unused numbers. 3 numbers (Nos 4, 20 & 34) came up 3 times. The person who has

actually won the most number of times is Mike Flatt - but considering he also has the most numbers (for him and his family) so its not too surprising. The Calvers have won 4 times from two numbers, Gary Rose, Pete Barnard, Fran & Steve and Richard Sykes have all won three times - but arguably the most successful of these is Richard Sykes as it was from only one number.

Mike Flatt did an excellent job when he set up the competition and managed to get takers for most of the numbers. A few of these have now come free so if you are not currently part of the competition here is your opportunity. The numbers that are 'spare' at the moment are: **15, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 34, 37, 43, 47** and 'lucky' **38** - or has it used all it's luck up?!

Go on take a number - it's a bit of fun, only costs £1 a week (though I will try and persuade you to set up a monthly standing order) and any surplus is then ploughed back into the club for equipment for you to use.

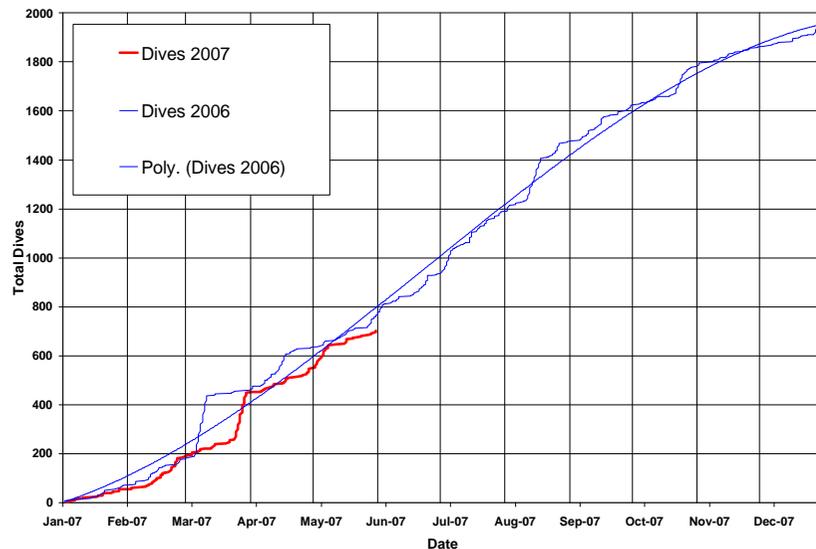
I an Jennings  
6<sup>th</sup> June 2007

## Members Dives 2007 - To The End of May

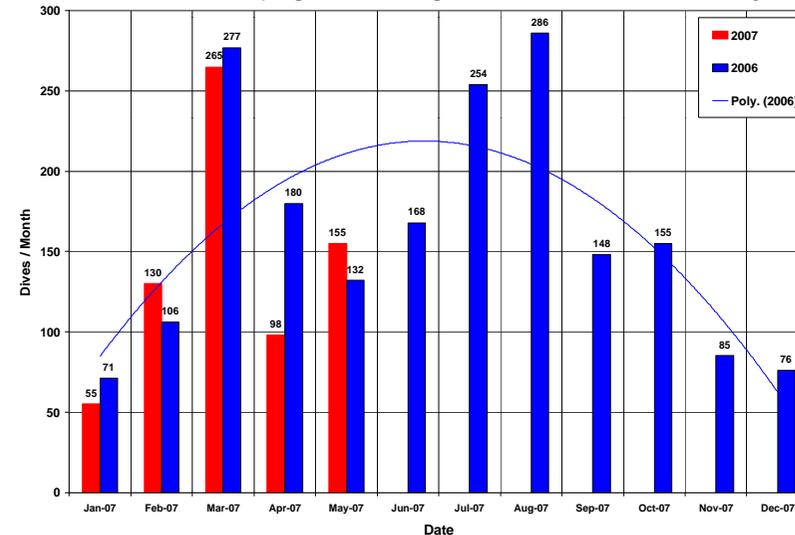
Hi all.

With the weather warming up, diving is also increasing. Probably the most dominant feature of the last month was the Nautical Archeological Society (NAS) event at Stoney where a few of us leant how to measure and record underwater (see report elsewhere in Freeflow). Unfortunately recording of the dive statistics doesn't appear as good as the underwater recording of artifacts (Come on Pete, Erica etc – you spent the week diving, there should be lots of Dive Manager sheets coming my way!). Although doing a similar number of dives to last year we are actually behind last year's dive numbers as you can see in the graph below:

The biggest (monthly) shortfall appears to have been in April as can be seen in the graph above:



The main statistics page (showing details to the end of May) is



shown on the next page (now a regular feature as it is preferred). Amazingly I am leading the main non-competition of 'Time underwater' – I'm sure that will change before the end of the season (Fran is on holiday soon!). Leading the Instructor/Training section (by a long way) is Fran – which accurately reflects the amount of training she is doing. The total number of people who have been diving up to the end of May is 44 (out of a possible 62 (excluding Social members, Honary members, pre-open water trainees etc) which leaves only 18 to get into the water - and I saw one of those early in June!

Ian Jennings - 9<sup>th</sup> June 2007

	Number of Dives	TOTAL TIME (Mins)	TOTAL (Hours)	Instructor/Trainer Time (Mins)	Time x Depth Total	Club Arranged Dives	Inland Dives	Coastal Dives	Foreign Dives	Wreck Dives	Reef Dives	Drift Dives	Other Dives	Night Dives	Training	Instructor/Trainer	Maximum Depth	Average Depth	Minimum Dive Length	Maximum Dive Length	Average Dive Length	0-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-40	40-50	50+	
Jennings Ian	61	2309	38.5	344	57074	61	50		11	7	4		50	7	14	10	37.4	22.9	2	79	38	10	2	4	23	4	18			
Rose Gary	32	1759	29.3	122	41161	28	14		18	14	7		11	7	5	3	38.0	21.7	28	78	55	6	3	1	8	7	7			
Duinker Fran	48	1674	27.9	811	32858	38	43	1	4	1		1	46	5	31	27	62.0	16.5	15	80	35	15	4	9	13	4	2		1	
Spickett Nigel	39	1656	27.6	351	46351	39	20		19	13	6		20	4	13	13	49.6	26.8	8	67	42									
Holmes Roger	33	1647	27.5	240	37503	31	20		13	13	6		14	4	7	7	37.2	21.2	4	76	50	5	5	6	3	9				
Barnard Peter	35	1593	26.6	77	44245	35	18		17	11	6		18	3	2	2	42.8	26.8	2	69	46	1	2	3	8	6	14	1		
Calver Neil	33	1573	26.2		41134	33	15		18	12	6		15	4	3		42.8	24.9	20	69	48	6	1	2	5	5	12	2		
Parker Kevin	29	1554	25.9	33	38057	27	13		16	14	5		10	6	2	2	38.0	23.1	7	78	54	3	4	3	5	5	9			
Flatt Mike	26	1443	24.1	62	35488	24	10		16	11	5		10	4	3	2	37.3	22.5	23	76	56	5	2	2	3	6	8			
Sykes Richard	28	1387	23.1		31589	26	10		18	10	6		12	3	2		35.0	21.8	20	68	50	4	3	2	8	6	5			
Hassell Steven	30	1261	21.0		21529		14		16				30		1		28.0	16.6	20	65	42	5	1	13	10	1				
Thomas Rachel	26	1079	18.0		26863	26	10		16	12	4		10	2	5		40.1	24.8	4	68	42	1	3	2	6	8	5	1		
Lakin Richard	19	901	15.0		22826	19	3		16	11	5		3	3			41.1	25.9	30	69	47	2	2	1	2	4	7	1		
Appleton Steve	21	893	14.9	60	23377	15	17		4				21	4	5	2	62.2	20.8	15	80	43	7		2	5	2	4		1	
Calver Susan (Su)	21	751	12.5		15369	21	9		12	8	4		9	1	8		31.7	20.8	8	51	36		3	5	9	3	1			
Hall Kath	15	646	10.8		12857	5	6	9		2	1	1	11		2		32.9	19.9	18	61	43	2	2	2	6	1	2			
Hall Richard	13	597	10.0		11405	3	4	9		2	1	1	9				32.9	19.1	30	61	46	2	2	1	6		2			
Urch Vicki	15	481	8.0		5872	15	15						15	4	10		21.5	12.3	20	45	32	9		2	4					
Johnson Bill	15	469	7.8		10860	14	14	1				1	14		11		35.4	23.0	25	39	31			2	10	1	2			
Walford Barry	10	432	7.2		7882	1	2	8		2	1	1	6				31.7	18.3	30	56	43	2	1	1	5		1			
Harman Sue	12	407	6.8		5972	12	12						12		10		22.0	15.4	25	50	34	2	1	5	4					
Hennessey Peter	10	353	5.9		2989	10	10						10	1	4		23.5	8.5	20	48	35	8	1	1	1					
Litchfield Phillip	10	336	5.6		5511	10	10						10		4		28.9	15.5	20	42	34	4	1		4	1				
Turney Phil	10	313	5.2	54	6755	10	10						10		6	2	36.6	20.1	20	37	31	3		2	2		3			
Stockdale Claire	6	298	5.0		7302		2		4	1	4		1	1			34.8	24.7	39	71	50			1	2	2	1			
Hill Michael	10	286	4.8		3985	10	10						10		10		21.6	14.2	22	40	29	2	3	2	3					
Drake John	9	284	4.7		3848	9	9						9		3		35.2	14.0	8	45	32	5		1	2		1			
Wilson Dave	10	270	4.5		6185	10	10						10		4		34.6	22.2	7	31	27			4	4		2			
Pearson Mary	11	263	4.4		3908	11	11						11	2	4		31.7	15.1	10	40	24	5			5		1			
Hill Lawrence	8	237	4.0		3499	8	8						8		8		20.8	14.2	21	42	30	2	2	2	2					
Twigg Natalie	6	235	3.9		5064	6	6			2			4				28.9	21.8	34	47	39			1	4	1				
Brown Neil	4	219	3.7		5678				4		4						34.8	26.7	46	71	55									
Bagshaw Mark	5	206	3.4		2188	5	5						5		5		14.8	10.6	36	46	41	3	2							
Simpson Adam	5	206	3.4		2184	5	5						5		5		14.8	10.6	36	46	41	3	2							
Clarke Erica	5	170	2.8		1020	5	5						5	1	4		6.0	6.0	20	60	34	5								
Castleford John	6	157	2.6		1375	6	6						6	3	3		20.0	8.6	20	30	26	5			1					
Hunter Andy	6	155	2.6		2365	6	6						6		2		21.5	15.7	7	39	26	1		4	1					
Duncan Clarke	5	129	2.2		1561	1	1		4				5		3		21.0	7.4	15	61	26	4			1					
Callis Jeremy	3	116	1.9		2106		3						3				21.0	18.8	33	50	39		1		2					
Woodcock Peter	4	115	1.9		1215	4	4						4		4		21.0	9.8	20	35	29	3			1					
Tomlin Neil	3	89	1.5	27	2231	3	3						3		1	1	35.7	24.6	27	32	30			1	1		1			
Burke Jason	3	86	1.4		1582	3	3						3		1		22.0	18.5	27	30	29		1	1	1					
Bill John	2	60	1.0		1245	2	2						2				21.0	20.8	30	30	30				2					
Wileman Martin	1	48	0.8		466	1	1						1				9.7	9.7	48	48	48	1								
TOTALS	703	29143	485.7	2181	644534	598	449	28	226	146	75	5	477	69	205	71						141	58	87	199	79	130	7	2	