

The British Sub Aqua Club - Huddersfield Branch No 18
Minutes of AGM - Saturday 23TH February 2008

1 Apologies

Matt Corder, Kate Falkingham, Diane Hepworth, Richard Frank

President: Steve Hepworth (Apologies received)

Chairman: Ray Dawson

Secretary: Jill Pickup

Diving Officer: Andy Briggs

Membership Secretary: Helen Briggs

Treasurer: Sarah Churchman

Equipment Officer: Andy Briggs

Training Officer: Ray Dawson

Ordinary Committee Members: Matt Corder (apologies received), Dave Colley,

Club Members Present: Richard Robinson, Ian Pilkington, Joe Pilkington, Claire Colley, Stuart Davies, Vince Murrell, Colin Murrell, Lynn Pearson, Scott Moffat, Julia Clark, Stewart Leahy, Brenda Pearson

2 Matters Arising

- Minutes approved from last year, Ray Dawson, Andy Briggs seconded.
- No other Matters arising

3 Chairman's Report

Thank you everyone for your support and contribution. The club depends on volunteers to run. We need your involvement. Without you there is no club.

The shape of the club should serve your need. If you want it to do things differently or just do more of the same then please get involved.

Special thanks to Helen Briggs as Membership Secretary and organizer Andy Briggs and Diving Officer, Training Officer and Equipment Officer, Sarah Churchman as Treasurer, Jill Pickup as secretary, Matt Corder as Welfare Officer and everyone else who has a role in the club.

The constant challenge of financing our training activities looms large. We have to remain ever focused on income generation if we are to remain a training club.

The Club has survived for over 50 years, many members have come and gone, the memories and traditions remain. Our role as custodians of that heritage is to see it prosper into the future for the benefit of current and future Huddersfield BSAC 18 divers.

4 Membership Secretary

We currently have on our records;

60 'current' diving members (trainee thru to FCD) and 35 snorkel (Octopush) members.

Breakdown of the diving members is as follows;

9 Trainees

14 Ocean Divers

22 Sports Divers

6 Dive Leaders

8 Advanced Divers

1 First Class Diver

During 2007 we did 28 try-a-dives.

5 Diving Officer's Report

We have travelled far and wide this year as a club, from New Zealand to Capernwray, Jordan, Galapagos, and St. Abbs to name a few,.

It is great to see new members joining the club but we must remember to include them in all our activities. We must welcome the new faces when they arrive at the pub on a Monday evening.

We have had a couple of near misses this year and not from trainees. Older members must remember to review their skills and not become complacent. If members want to go out with instructors to review these skills then just ask.

Emphasis

- New members
- Think safe but with smile

Special Thanks go to those who are on the lifeguard and compressor rotas. Thanks to Jill Pickup for organising rotas.

Andy has enjoyed his role as Diving officer but is stepping down.

6 Training Officers Report

This report should actually be delivered as group feedback. No one person being a true training officer.

A successful year with Ocean Diver, Sport Diver and Dive Leader training being undertaken and completed.

The accomplishments of a few showing what can be achieved with determination and effort.

A very big thank-you to the instructors that have given up their personal time to support the club and trainees. Without you there would be no training.

7 Welfare Officer's Report

Apologies sent from Matt Corder.

He has been lucky in his role and has had nothing much to do. Please make sure all CRB checks are completed and returned to Matt.

With reference to the CRB check we must again vote, by show of hands, to keep the amended constitution as is with regards to paragraph 5a which states that:

"5.a Members applying for new or renewed membership of the Branch (in any or all of the capacities listed below) will be required to give their permission for their criminal record to be checked through the Criminal Records Bureau."

Full text of the amended constitution can be found on the Clubs web pages.

Are we going to keep the constitution as it is and still train vulnerable people? Voted yes unanimously.

8 Treasurer's Report

A good year overall. Octopush is being very profitable giving us a third of our annual income. Pool hire is still our biggest outgoing at £4500.

Try-a- dives have been very popular and kit maintenance costs have been low.

A profitable year overall – lets keep the money coming in.

9 Auditors Report

The auditors confirmed that the above balance sheet and accompanying income and expenditure account were certified correct. Verified by Diane and Steve Hepworth

Auditors – Diane and Steve Hepworth

10 Equipment Officer's Report

A change of equipment office has arisen this year as Chris Knight has stepped down because of university commitments and Andy Briggs has stepped in to replace him.

All new kit has been serviced and can be used by any member of the club as long as it is returned after use.

Thanks to all those on compressor rota and Jill for organising. Can members please remember to find a replacement if you cannot attend on your evening as it is a Sport Centre requirement to have two people.

11 New Committee Appointment

The new committee were appointed (unopposed) as follows;

President: Steve Hepworth

Chairman: Jill Pickup

Secretary: TBA

Diving Officer: Dave Colley

Membership Secretary: Helen Briggs

Treasurer: Sarah Churchman

Equipment Officer: Any Briggs

Training Officer: Nominated by DO

Assistant Training Officer: To be confirmed in March committee meeting.

Ordinary Committee Members with responsibility as Welfare Officer : Matt Corder

Ordinary Committee Members with responsibility as Octopush Representative : TBA

Ordinary Committee Members: Stuart Davies, Ian Pilkington, Julia Clark

12 Presentation of Club Trophies

A new approach to trophies this year - they will be awarded, engraved and then given back to member.

It is always difficult deciding who to give the trophies to. Lots of people devote time and energy into the club.

The Naismith trophy was originally awarded for 'Baths attendance'. This year it is going to be awarded to the person who has shown promise and it has taken a lot of determination to get what they wanted. It is presented to Colin Murrell.

The Anne Eaves Trophy...traditionally this is given to a lady member of the club. This year I have chosen someone who makes the club function. Without her prompting and guidance nothing would ever get done. This year with pleasure, the Anne Eaves Trophy goes to Helen Briggs.

Finally, the Gary Brook trophy goes to someone who I hope will go a long way with his diving. He has made an excellent start and will flourish as an instructor. He is enthusiastic and is always smiling. The trophy is awarded to Stuart Davies.

13 President's Address

The wheel has yet again turned full circle another AGM is looming, and like two years ago Diane and I are close to leaving the country on holiday. I am having difficulty in accessing our Web page so am not sure when the meeting is to take place but I will be away from late January until late February so I am sending Jill my apologies for my absence along with my Presidents Address.

From the committee meeting minutes that I was able to access it would seem that the Sports Centre continues to make the lives of the committee more and more difficult, with negotiations on new terms, risk assessments and CRB checks to mention just a few. The cost of the Sports Centre Facility continues to rise at a considerable rate, as the returns in service and amenities decline. We are lucky at the moment that Monday nights octopush is popular as this greatly helps with the Sports Centres monthly bills.

We have for several years now been responsible for our own lifeguard duties but this year the Sports Centre insisted that we had two lifeguards, one for scuba and one for octopush, this could have put a strain on our lifeguard members but luckily an Octopush parent was qualified and willing to be Octopush lifeguard. We always need members to act as lifeguards and compressor operators I hope members will put themselves forward to participate on these rotas.

To become a lifeguard members need to hold a BSAC Lifesaver Award, which according to my latest NDC Bulletin we can soon run in house without an external examiner as long as we instructors have done our bit.

Huddersfield Sports Centre has been our home for well over thirty years, but it was finally revealed last year that in the not too distant future it will close at the current site and move to a new one. The location of which I am not aware. We will therefore be faced with the questions of where do we make our new home, do we want a new home even do we need a new home. These types of questions will no doubt have already had an airing in committee and general conversation, but I raise the point so that newer members are aware of the situation as they will hopefully become the older members and committee members who will ultimately be faced with the decision.

The diving last year was once again influenced by the strange weather, illustrated once again by the fact that St. Abbs conditions were better in November and December than in the summer months. One notable exception to the bad weather was the week on the MV Faithful where we managed to travel from Plymouth to the Isles of Scilly and back, the weather could only be described as Mediterranean, well except for the outward voyage! Thanks to Ray for his organisation of this and many other trips.

Also thank you to all other trip organisers, instructors, rota participants the outgoing committee, everyone who has helped the branch over the past diving year.

Finally may I welcome the new committee and wish them well for the next twelve months.

Stephen M Hepworth
President BSAC 18

14 Any Other Business

Thanks to Jill Pickup for organising the AGM – a good idea to have a social event as well.

Lots of trips being organised for 2008 – get yourself booked on.

Good luck to Sarah for her wedding.