

ISAC Newsletter



A message from your B.D.O.

Jim Craig the Club's B.D.O. is looking for trained divers to give lectures at the Tuesday Nights Club. At present only a few are participating and it is becoming increasingly difficult if we do not have more. So come on you 'Trained Know It alls' get teaching. Contact Jim for more information.

Clubhouse/Treasurer.

Both Iorna and rose request that when you are purchasing items from the bar that you make a note of what you have taken, in the 'book' and also on the new 'stock sheet'. If unsure about the new procedure please ask either of them.



Your Editor speaking.



I would be grateful for any stories you might have, of interest to the readers of the Newsletter, to be published. If so please see me immediately.

Entertainment

Derek McPhearson your entertainments officer has organized a Go-Karting evening at Cambuslang in September. Price is £35.00 per person.

Derek will put further information up on the notice board with regards times, meeting point etc..



Rose's B B Q.

I am sure I speak for all those that attended, the recent B B Q outing, that it was a great day and enjoyed by all. Well done to Rose for organizing such an entertaining day. The diving, the two boats, the location and especially the food were all simply splendid.

This outing of course was all part of Rose's requirements for attaining her 2nd class qualifications with SSAC.

Rose, on behalf of all of us, good luck.



For those of you who could not attend, well you missed a great day.

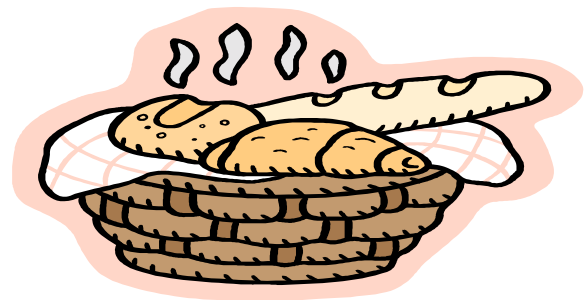
Our first dive was to the Ahdeek (22 metres) followed by a second dive to the Marjorie Seed (9 metres). Some of us were especially privileged to get in a third dive. Just off the Lady Isle, in Caribbean like surroundings, we dived to a forest of seaweed. !!

I was delighted to bring up a crab, which at the time was a great find until 10 minutes later Rab brought up a monster of a lobster. I secretly and silently dropped mine back into the water before Rab started to boast that 'His' was bigger than 'mine'.

It was essential that everything was recorded properly so Jim Craig took it upon himself to take an accurate reading of the water temperature, and filled his dry suit with half of Troon Harbour. Sorry Jim.

A big thank you must surely go to Carol for attending to the BBQ all day and making sure that everyone had enough. Carol those BBQ bananas were the best.

Did Junior really have 10 ????????

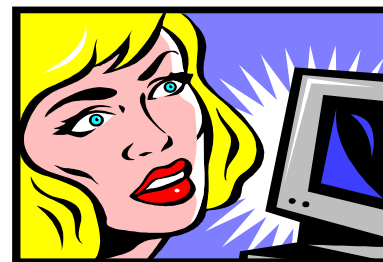


As the day progressed the weather did not, but that did not dampen the fun (except for Jim, still drying out).

For those of you who go to the Mediterranean for sun, sand and s_ _ , along with banana rides, take it from me, no need. Our very own Rab is now setting up his own business doing Rubber Ring Rides around Troon.

But if you are in anyway 'squeamish' mind for you can get sore arms and b_ _ _ . Ask Lorna what I mean, as she gave me the full and detailed breakdown on the following Tuesday evening in the showers. !

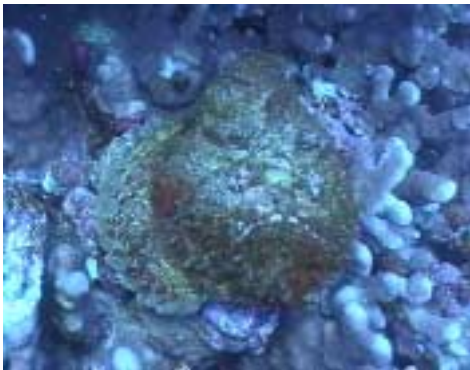
Now I know that Rose enjoyed the day more than anyone else and that she cannot wait to organize another BBQ event. Honestly she told me that it was so easy, she can't wait.



And neither can we.

Oor Dive in the Red Sea (or just dookin' about by Rab Stevens)

(Editor's note :- For those that missed Willie Lee's video of the event which he showed on a recent evening at the club, this is a canned version of the expedition from Oor Rab. See if you can spot the correlation with the video or more likely the slight deviations since this is based upon Rab's unique view of events. (Names are included to identify the guilty)



Rab reports

"Once committed, the time just flew by.

Jim Gilmour has better holiday arranging skills than Lunn Poly, from pick-up by Willie to the airport, onwards to Gatwick, with overnight stay in hotel and then outwards from Gatwick to Egypt. All this went like a well oiled machine with the only hiccup being that the "free" bus back to Gatwick from the hotel cost £1 each.

Arrival at Hurghada : an Egyptian port on the Red Sea with the dive boat "Miss Vina" only 5 minutes from the airport. However, it took us an hour and 35 minutes to reach it. Egyptian customs only stop big-busted girls and Yanks. Yes, unfortunately we were trapped with I an

Campbell of National Geographic fame (in the water with great white sharks and NO cage) because his party of 8 had baggage which made our luggage look like Lorna's bag.

Eventually arriving at Miss Vina, we recognise the outstanding quality of air conditioning and layout, cabins, air conditioning, 12 litre 232 bar bottles with sweetly conditioned air (15 litre available at extra cost) and did I mention the boat had air conditioning. Sheer luxury. Stab jackets and D/V stayed fixed to your tank till you left after your holiday, baskets below the bottles for all the rest of your gear.

Bare feet were the order of the day on board for everyone from Captain to cabin boy. Two pairs swim trunks, one for wearing whilst the other pair dries as wet gear not allowed inside.



Food, which was best described as Arabic with European influence, was good and there was plenty of it with as much water as you could drink all included in the price.

The Red Sea is very salty and has no rise or fall of tides, however, at times, there could be very strong currents.



Sonya was the organiser of the dives and told you in the briefing before every dive which direction it was running in. (Irvine training always comes to the fore and after one test dive, it was always "You four first").



The test dive had 50 metres viz over a coral island just above the surface down to a shelf at 25 metres. It was like stepping into a warm bath. And the marine life that we saw, well, where do you start?

We did 19 dives over 5 days and a computer was a must for multi dives to 40 metres, but most of the time then up to depths between 10, 6 and 4 metres and no one doing flash deco stops. Average dive times varied between 50 to 90 minutes.



For mooching around below the waves the rule of "Don't touch" is a good one. We saw plenty of Lion Fish with their poisonous fins to purple Spotted Rays that had a sting in the tail. The Morays are particularly large and menacing, (one followed closely for a while at a distance). The variety of fish is really tremendous, seeing the large Groupers and Wrasse and being chased by clown fish as they try to protect their anemones is great fun.



There were also Napoleon Wrasse Barracudas and Sharks but the sharks kept their distance.



Just to rub your noses in it, let me describe one night dive so that you can savour the flavour.

I was with a BSAC lady (*Editor's note - Oh Oh, typical boasting again*) when we came upon a Spanish Dancer and she raced straight for it but I managed to stop her before she could touch it.

Photo's were taken and I signalled to Willie with his digital camera to take some footage. I then signalled to Sue (*Editor's note - Ah Ha, on first name terms now, very intimate!*) that she could now pick it up. She did and at once it opened out into a swimming motion from which it gets its name.



Then the Yanks came over to see what was up and it was like the Papparazzo pouncing upon some starlet. They were coming in all directions, stirring up silt and elbowing Willie out of the way. One lady had a short suit on and I was holding her leg, not for pleasure you must understand, but to stop her landing on a Lion Fish. (*Editor's note - Aye, sure!*) And all this time the Spanish Dancer was being tossed ever higher in the water.



A crocodile fish buried in waiting for nosh.

On most of our dives we saw some scarce but varied fish and the Yanks saw nothing. *(Editor's note - do you detect the inkling that Rab doesnae like the Yanks?)*. So the exchange afterwards in the nicest possible terms usually went along the lines of "What did you see on that dive?" and the answer would be something like " Oh, Spotted Eagle Ray, ... etc, etc." and the response elicited would be "You Scottish B*****"



The Scottish B*****s

We did play a small trick on Sonya by saving some of the empty beer cans from the week and on the last day placed at least 5 cans in front of everybody at the table before Sonya came in. (Sonya frowned upon drinking & diving).

So at lunch @ 13.00hrs there were about 90 cans all over the table. In a gruff voice she commented " Well, you're all adults!"

Healthwise, the check list reads:

Jim:- I ll two days and missed one days diving

Harry:- "The Runs" (technical term involving a different part of the anatomy from the legs) for two days but no diving missed.

Rab:- Ok on the boat but last day hotel "runs"

Willie:- He was so healthy it was no wonder the rest of us were sick.

This is a short version of the story so far. There is loads more to hear so come down to the club and share a story or three."

Rab, the Red Sea Dooker.



Photo evidence by kind permission of "Snapper" Lee