



24 & 31 May **Night dives at the Rezza**

28/29 May - **Plymouth QAB Rib dive**

13/14/15 June - **Lyme Regis -**

Blue Turtle Hard Boat Diving

26 June - **Dosthill Quarry**

16 July - **Bar B Q at the Rezza**

This month saw the Annual Brixham Shore **dive** becoming the Annual Brixham shore **drive** as the high winds put paid to any diving going ahead. For those who drove down on the day it turned out to be a really long drive for nothing but we are at the mercy of the weather and it couldn't be helped. Some went for a bracing walk, some stayed over and went for an excellent meal in the evening and some drove straight back home. Oh well we will try again next year unless you have any suggestions for alternative sites. On a brighter note the club rib has had the required repairs done and is now able to be used. Sean Russell will be organising the next trip down to QAB Plymouth (28th & 29th May) contact him on sean.russell@blueyonder.co.uk. As soon as possible. He would especially like to here from boat handlers. With the Egypt trip less than 12 weeks away now is the time to get any kit serviced and to get in some warm up dives and brush up on those skills, so with that in mind we are moving the *pensioners* Stoney Cove day next week to Monday 23 May. All ages and grades of diver are welcome (*you don't have to be a pensioner*). We will meet at Stoney at 09 30 hrs see <http://www.stoneycove.co.uk/> for directions and fees.



CONGRATULATIONS

To Mathew Forster who has successfully completed his Sports Diver Qualification.

BAR - B - Q and equipment maintenance talk by the Aqua Sports Team on 16th July 2011 at the Rezza. Watch out for details.

Blue Turtle Diving Accident

A DIVER is missing, feared dead, and another is in hospital following a dive tragedy off the Dorset coast.

Coastguard helicopters, lifeboats, local vessels, the harbourmaster and a Royal Navy vessel were all called in to scour the waters, three miles off Lyme Regis.

A second diver was air- lifted to hospital and the three-hour search was called off at 9pm on Thursday.

The missing 48-year-old, an experienced diver from Bristol, and his buddy, a 47-year-old man from Swindon, were among a group of eight divers aboard the Lyme Regis dive boat Blue Turtle.

Portland Coastguard was alerted at 5.30pm when one of the divers became ill after a rapid ascent from a 20-metre dive.

He was taken by Coastguard helicopter to a specialist unit at Poole Hospital while an extensive search was launched for his dive buddy, who was last sighted below the surface.

Andrew Jenkins, Portland Coastguard Watch Manager, said: "At this stage, it would be wrong to speculate about the cause.

"But this is the second serious diving accident to have occurred off Dorset already this season and I would remind divers to make sure they are well prepared, fully trained for the level of dive and their equipment is properly maintained."

Blue Turtle skipper Rob King said the pair were on their second dive of the day collecting scallops.

He said: "The first we were aware of a problem was when one diver came up in obvious distress having made a rapid ascent. From what information we were able to get from him they'd got into an out-of-air situation."

Mr King alerted Portland Coastguard and the Rescue 106 helicopter was sent to search the area and airlift the distressed diver for treatment in a compression chamber at Poole Hospital.

The helicopter from Lee-on-Solent took over the search and was joined by Lyme Regis and Weymouth RNLI lifeboats, Sidmouth Independent Lifeboat, Lyme Regis harbourmaster Grahame Forshaw, RFA Gold Rover, Axmouth vessel Scrumpy, and Seaton boat Bardsey Island.

The Portland helicopter relieved the Lee-on-Solent crew after returning from Poole, but the search was eventually called off when it started getting dark.

Mr King, 48, said the missing man is a regular on Blue Turtle.

Local divers were also among the group.

He said: "Obviously it's distressing and it's something that none of us wanted.

"I can't speculate as to what happened. We won't know that until the facts can be investigated."

(Story taken from Dorset Evening Echo 21 April 2011)

That's it for now.

This is where I bang my head off the wall again and ask for relevant stories , photo's/ video's you would like to share with our members. Forward them to me at comms@dudleynautilus.co.uk.