



# BUBBLING UNDER



Banbury Sub-Aqua Club Newsletter

September 2010

## What's on Calendar

October	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Social: Canal day <i>"Banbury town council's annual canal day was an excellent success for BANSac last year and an excellent way to promote the club. Come down to support your club and join in the fun by having your face painted, hair braided or have a go on our tomobola!"</i> See Clare Barber
	6 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup>	Night Dive 
	7 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Martin Cook
	10 <sup>th</sup>	Banbury Sub-Aqua Club Annual General Meeting
	14 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Shaun West Social: Clare Gledhill - GUE courses, Trimix and Cave Diving - training room 20:00 <i>"An rare opportunity to hear a well respected diver talk about her experiences in the diving world. Clare is one of only three instructors in the UK teaching GUE courses and an active advanced trimix diver. Having dived caves and deep wrecks will make for a fascinating talk."</i> See Clare Barber
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Social: White water Rafting - Nene White water centre, Northampton - 10:00 See Clare Barber
	21 <sup>st</sup>	Compressor Rota: Rob Gericke Social: Kit trial night Spiceball pool 21:00 - 22:00 - See the article in Julys edition of 
	28 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Mike White
	30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup>	Social: DIVE 2010 at NEC Birmingham
November	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup>	Night Dive 
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Dave Singleton Social: Digital Submission Deadline for the Annual Photo Competition See Shaun West
	6 <sup>th</sup>	Social: Bowling - Banbury Lakeside Superbowl 19:00 <i>"Families &amp; friends welcome to come try your bowling skills at Lakeside Superbowl in Banbury. We will meet around 7pm to play two games to decided the BANSac bowling champion!"</i> See Clare Barber
	11 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Graham Barber Social: Annual Photo Competition See Shaun West
	13 <sup>th</sup>	Social: Council Christmas Bizarre Social: Dinner Dance - Bodicote Cricket Club 19:00 See Clare Barber
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Axl West
	25 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Dave Merry
	28 <sup>th</sup>	Social: Christmas Light switch on 12:00
December	1 <sup>st</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup>	Night Dive 
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Compressor Rota: Clare Barber
	9 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Duane Knight
	11 <sup>th</sup>	Social: Curry night - Jay Purr from 19:00
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Compressor Rota: Dave White
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Scuba Santa's @ Vobster Quay See: Shaun West
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Compressor Rota: Ken McDougal
February	19 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>	Social: BSAC - All-new Big Dive Show 2011
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Diving Officer's Conference - Olympia, London
March	26 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup>	Social: The London International Dive Show 2011 ExCeL, London
April	29 <sup>th</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dive Fest 2011 Trip See: TBC
September	10 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup>	Social: Southampton Boat Show <a href="http://www.southamptonboatshow.com/2010_home/">http://www.southamptonboatshow.com/2010_home/</a>
	18 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>	Scapa 2011 Trip See: Alice Townsend

## In This Issue:


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- o Diving: Lundy Island
- o Treasure Hunt at Stoney Cove.
- o BANSac Funding
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- o NARC

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## Summer is over?

Well we are barley out of August and the rain is pouring down and there is a chill in the air. But the water is lovely and warm. We had 17 degrees in North Haven while diving in the Skomer Marine Reserve last weekend.

Saturday was not the direst of days but at least we were warm as we did our Club Proud by in joining with the N.A.R.C. Dive while we were down in West Wales.

Take a look at the article in this month edition of  for more details on N.A.R.C.

This month sees the first in a two part article on the mid week coastal dashes we have been doing to Studland Bay near Swanage. Robin tells all the ups and down in diving the sea grass beds.

September already looks promising with the long awaited club dive on the Isle of Scilly. These unspoiled and relatively isolated islands have the gentlest climate in Britain, making the Isles of Scilly a haven for many types of flora and fauna. The Isles are often referred to as a sub-tropical paradise and have been named an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The islands' entire coastline, including many beautiful white beaches as well as rocky headlands and islets, has been given Heritage status. Each island has its own unique and rather special character.

I am packing my bags in anticipation already.

Safe Diving  Editor *Shaun West*

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**BUBBLING  
UNDER**



(And your article)

## Lundy Island becomes England's first marine conservation zone

[guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

Three-mile long island off the coast of Devon is England's first in a planned national network of protected marine zones

The waters around Lundy Island became England's first marine conservation zone today as the government project to create a network of protected areas in the seas began.

The creation of the marine conservation zone (MCZ) around the island under the Marine Act is effectively just a name change for the site, which has been a marine nature reserve for more than 20 years.

But over the next two years, plans for a network of protected zones will be drawn up around English, Welsh and Northern Irish waters under the Marine and Coastal Access Act, which was passed last year.

The seas around Lundy, a three mile-long island off the Devon coast, are home to wildlife ranging from grey seals and lobsters to pink sea fan corals and habitats including reefs, sea caves and sand banks.

Part of the area, which was England's only marine nature reserve, has been a "no-take zone" - which meant it was protected from all kinds of fishing - since 2003.

Lobsters are among the wildlife shown to have benefited from the protection the restrictions provided.

While some of the new marine conservation zones could be no-take zones to protect wildlife, officials say that is unlikely to be the case in the majority of areas, with ranging levels of protection at different sites.

Under the Marine Act, it will be an offence to break the rules established in the zones, which could include seasonal or permanent bans on certain types of fishing, recreational activities or practices such as dropping anchor.

There will be four regional programmes to develop the MCZ network, with the project teams made up of representatives of interested parties ranging from fishing groups to conservation charities. The existing protection around Lundy will remain unchanged, but the area will be considered as part of the wider programme to draw up marine conservation zones in the South West.

Dr Helen Phillips, the chief executive of the government's conservation agency, Natural England, said: "Lundy is a showcase of what a well-protected marine environment can become."

*"Today's designation ushers in a new era of marine protection and it is important that the momentum to develop more marine conservation zones is now sustained."*

[www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

Tuesday 12 January 2010 06.00 GMT

[guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/jan/12/lundy-island-marine-conservation-zone>

## Diving:

### Lundy Island



The diving season on Lundy is short but spectacular. The visibility is good enough for diving from the end of April to the end of September. The tides of the Bristol Channel are fierce but the island lies N-S in a tidal stream that is mostly E-W, so there is always some part of the island with slack water. Dive the west side on the ebb and the east side on the flood. Below the surface of the sea there is magnificent scenery and a huge variety of marine life, some of which is unique to the British Isles. For this reason the waters around Lundy are designated as a Statutory Marine Reserve (the first in the country).

There are many types of fish including basking sharks in the summer months and the unique population of red banded fish (a metre long, shaped like an eel with a red band and a single dorsal fin the whole length of their body - they live in burrows in the mud). Crabs, lobsters and crayfish are still common but their populations have been affected by commercial fishing. There are huge numbers of sea urchins and starfish and the population of jewel anemones rarely fails to amaze the visiting diver. Common and lesser octopus are also regularly seen.



© [http://www.lundyisland.co.uk/pdf/lundy\\_leafler%20.pdf](http://www.lundyisland.co.uk/pdf/lundy_leafler%20.pdf)

There are shipwrecks of course - 137 to be precise - the battleship Montagu lies close into the South West tip of the island - she ran aground on Shutter Point in May 1906 in thick fog whilst making trials of the new wireless telegraphy apparatus. Much of her was salvaged but there are still huge

sections of armour plate, parts of the gun turrets and 12in diameter shells. The small coaster 'Robert' foundered off the east side in 1975 when her cargo of anthracite duff shifted. She is now a man made reef covered in plumose anemones and populated by shoals of Pollack and solitary wrasse. Anglerfish can be found on the seabed around her and conger eels lurk in holes in her keel.

Nearby is the wreck of the 'Iona' - an American Confederate paddle steamer designated as a Protected Wreck (A licence is needed to dive here - see the Marine Nature Reserve zones).

There is the Carmen Filomena, the Earl of Jersey, Ethel, The Heroine and many others all with their own atmosphere, history and population of sea life.

### Diving Don'ts on Lundy Island:

- Avoid contact with the seabed and all marine life – watch your fins!
- Never remove items off wrecks or take wreck material from the seabed
- Avoid leaving air bubbles in caves or overhangs
- Spear fishing is not permitted anywhere
- Diving without a licence on a designated wreck site is illegal
- Crawfish (spiny lobsters) are very rare, please don't take them from the reserve.



<http://www.lundy.org.uk/index.html>

### Treasure Hunt at Stoney Cove



### Underwater World @ Stoney Cove & George Tarratt

Invites all visiting divers to enter the "2010 Charity Treasure Hunt @ Stoney Cove" £10,000 worth of prizes to be won!

17th July- 30th August

Prizes include:

- Omega Ocean Watch worth £2500.00
- Suunto Vyper Air worth £399.00
- Cressi Travel light worth £330.00
- Miflex Hose Package worth £200.00
- Atomic regulator worth £595.95
- Mares regulator & octopus worth £400.00

And many more great prizes to be won!

Each entry cost's £5, which is donated equally between 4 charities.

In 1963 divers came from all over the United Kingdom to find buried treasure in the form of 100 golden guineas, today George Tarratt has donated an Omega Planet Ocean watch along with other prizes for the lucky 'hunters'

Underwater World @ Stoney Cove and George Tarratt the Jewellers, of Market Street, Leicester have teamed up to re-produce the Treasure Hunt of 1963.

However instead of 100 Guineas an Omega Planet Ocean watch as the star prize.

In conjunction with George Tarratt, Underwater World have managed to obtain prizes from our generous suppliers within the diving industry, Suunto, Typhoon, Cressi-sub, Mares, Fourth Element, Tusa, Vandagraph and MiFlex Hoses too name a few...

Omega are proud to sponsor this opportunity to help raise valuable funds for local and nationwide charity's and to that effect both Underwater world @ Stoney Cove and George Tarratt are thrilled and excited to be involved in this massive fund raising event which will hopefully raise much needed funds for the following worthy causes



These charities will each receive an equal ¼ share of ALL money that is raised. Every penny raised will be divided out, we also ask that the gift aid boxes are ticked so that charity's get everything they deserve.

Ask in store for more details or look on our website, [www.stoneycove.co.uk](http://www.stoneycove.co.uk)

For a full list of rules on conditions click this link: <http://www.stoneycove.co.uk/poster%20and%20terms.pdf>



## BANSac



### Funding

" as always I am trying to come up with ways to get the club lots of money so we can afford new equipment and fun stuff!

There are lots of places I can apply to for funding but we need to prove that we will be benefiting the community with the money we receive, we also need to say what we will be buying with the money.

What I need from you guys is ideas for how we could benefit the community and what you would like to see the club gain from funding such as new diving equipment, nitrox mixes on the compressor, a new boat, a club house etc!

If you have any ideas, suggestions or would like to help me (always appreciated) please do call me on 07919575964 or email me at [clare\\_barber69@hotmail.com](mailto:clare_barber69@hotmail.com) "

Clare Barber

### Studland Dash...



#### Part 1

On Wednesday 19th May, 3 intrepid explorers ventured into the wilds and descended on Swanage for the 'Studland Dash' – NOT an attempt to find, discover or photograph the elusive Studland Seahorses... because you'd need a licence for that!

Arriving at Swanage to launch the boat, conditions were perfect - Mirror-glass Sea, sunshine and no wind!



We motored around the corner and arrived at Studland deciding to moor up on one of the buoys in the 'no anchor' zone.

Shaun & Robin went in first and, with the viz a perfectly respectable 5m, didn't start the search...

After 45 minutes of 'diving' in water that was between 2-3 metres, it was time to surface... or stand up as we commonly call it!

And then Shaun and Mandy tried their luck...

Again, another 45 or so minutes and still no luck... so we moved the boat further to the East and tried again...

This time, it seemed that the environment was more encouraging - somehow the flora and fauna seemed more appropriate... we saw a Pipe Fish - a close relative of the Seahorse... a Scallop... and then the largest Cuttle Fish I've ever seen - well, it was bigger than the other ONE I've seen! 35 minutes later and it was time to abandon our search for the day.



So, was that it?

Well, not exactly... we saw THAT Cuttle Fish - and maybe it was the same Cuttle Fish we could see from the boat when it was trying to attack a duck! So that's a first for any of us I think.

We watched the army deploying parachutes into the bay and recovering...

We had sunshine, sea air and near perfect conditions...

But, unfortunately, despite our best efforts we still didn't find those elusive Seahorses, which we weren't actually looking for...

Robin Clark

## New name, date and venue for DOC. . .



The Diving Officer's Conference has been improved - now called the BSAC Diving Conference 2011, it brings a refreshed format and an exciting programme for ALL Diving Officers and Instructors.

Remaining true to the original 'DOC' ethos of providing essential diving development updates, information-sharing and acknowledging achievement, the re-titled BSAC Diving Conference will be moved from its traditional date in December\* and will now be held on Saturday, February 19th, 2011 at Olympia, London.

It will be open to ALL BSAC Diving Officers and Instructors.

The one-day conference will run alongside The Big Scuba Show 2011, sharing the Olympia venue with the new exhibition organised by DIVE magazine.

The BSAC Diving Conference 2011 has been introduced following feedback from BSAC members and previous conference delegates. Many thanks to everyone who took the time to let us know their views on how we could develop and improve the event.

By moving the conference date away from the Christmas season, changing its location to a more accessible and better venue and incorporating it into The Big Scuba Show programme, the BSAC Diving Conference 2011 also offers greater value to all its attendees.

Access to The Big Scuba Show is included in the Conference ticket price. Delegates will also get exclusive 'early bird' entry to the main Big Scuba Show exhibition hall prior to the conference and a revamped conference programme will ensure there is something for everyone attending.

Alongside the traditional core awards, there will be speakers and key presentations and, with a more concise running order - that will start later than usual to allow for early morning travellers - the programme allows plenty of time for the all-important networking and socialising. Members of the National Diving Committee and BSAC Headquarters staff will also be on-hand throughout the day.

In a new move for 2011, we will also be asking Instructors to get involved in directing the future of BSAC training.

Conference Coordinator Michelle Haywood said the new look BSAC Diving Conference will ensure that it remains an accessible and essential event for all Diving Officers and Instructors.

"With the launch of The Big Scuba Show and the opportunity to stage the conference at the fabulous Olympia venue, 2011 will see a revitalised BSAC Diving Conference. Based on the very best of the traditional DOC, the new Conference will be a key forum for the decision-makers and instructors in our sport. It is a time to share opinions, information and view points as well as celebrate the achievements of our fellow Instructors."

Further details on the BSAC Diving Conference 2011 programme and tickets will be launched early Autumn.

\*The Conference date of 19th February 2011 replaces the December 2010 event

**N.A.R.C.**



## Neptune's Army of Rubbish Cleaners

Neptune's army is 'most admired'

A group of divers has picked up a national award for Most Admired Voluntary Group in Wales.

Neptune's Army of Rubbish Cleaners (NARC), based in Pembrokeshire, was recognised by the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action.

Formed in 2005, the 25-strong group carries out regular clean-ups to help protect the underwater environment along Pembrokeshire's coastline.

"We are thrilled to have our efforts recognised," said founder Dave Kennard.

NARC's volunteers take to the sea regularly between May and September.

The rubbish collected by the volunteers is sorted through and recycled where possible. On one dive at Stackpole Quay, the group collected 730 fishing weights.

**"The rubbish we see is simply out of sight, out of mind but people need to realise the damage it can do"**

*Dave Kennard, NARC chairman*

Mr Kennard, who started the group in conjunction with Keep Wales Tidy, and secretary David Jones attended the Network Wales awards ceremony in Llandudno, Conwy, recently.



*NARC The rubbish collected by the volunteers is sorted through and recycled*

"Having done 15 clean-ups this year, we are thrilled to have our efforts recognised at a national level," said Mr Kennard.

"We rely solely on funding so it is fantastic that people are becoming more and more aware of the work we do.

"The rubbish we see is simply out of sight, out of mind but people need to realise the damage it can do."

Mr Jones added: "We collect everything from shopping trolleys, bikes to car batteries.

"Our job is not simply about clearing away litter. We also aim to raise awareness about how we as a community can do more to protect the underwater environment we are fortunate to have within our reach."

## About N.A.R.C.

Pembrokeshire has some of the most spectacular coastal scenery in the UK which provides habitat for a diverse range of fauna and flora. This habitat and the wildlife it supports have come under increasing pressure in recent times. Coast Care aims to involve people in caring for their local, coastal environment where volunteers can adopt a beach or stretch of coastline and carry out activities such as litter picks, dune maintenance and environmental education events.

While the impacts of litter washed up or left on our shoreline can easily be seen, the same cannot be said for marine litter that is below the surface of the ocean. Neptune's Army of Rubbish Cleaners or N.A.R.C for short mimic the beach litter picks carried out by Coast Care groups with the only difference being they are carried out underwater! The organisation is made up of voluntary divers with a passion for keeping the underwater environment in Pembrokeshire as pristine as it should be.

Divers descend in buddy pairs armed with scissors, bags, trays, lifting bags and a great belief in what they are doing. Dives can last almost an hour in which litter is collected, bagged and sent to the surface for retrieval by a support boat. The diversity of litter found on dives is staggering with mobile phones, shopping trolleys, bicycles, revolving chairs, skateboards, batteries and quite literally the kitchen sink! The highest presence of litter is from recreational fishing with weights, rods, hooks and endless amounts of line retrieved from dives all around the county.

The impacts upon wildlife are only too apparent with fishing line often cut from spider crabs and lobsters, dog fish released from hooks and lost crab pots ghost fishing. The litter can also be a hazard to divers and other water users. Once retrieved the various items are cleaned, sorted, recorded and recycled where possible.

## AIMS

The aims of NARC are to:

- Locate, document, retrieve and responsibly dispose of underwater debris from the sea and freshwaters of Pembrokeshire using volunteer divers;
- Collect data on the distribution, nature and amount of underwater debris and its environmental impacts;
- Spread awareness of the presence of underwater marine litter and the environmental threats it causes;
- Educate water users and the public so as to reduce the input of debris to the sea.



<http://www.narc-cc.org.uk/>



<http://www.facebook.com/posted.php?id=96265916024#!/group.php?gid=96265916024>

"Red Sea" Nudibranch of the issue



### Risbecia ghardaqana



**Common name:** None Gohar & Aboul-Ela, 1957

Phylum: Mollusca  
Class: Gastropoda  
Order: Nudibranchia  
Suborder: Doridina  
Family: Chromodorididae

**Description**

This is one of a number of similarly coloured yellow-spotted species including *Risbecia imperialis*, *Risbecia pulchella*, and *Chromodoris annulata* growing up to 11cm in size. *Risbecia ghardaqana* occurs sympatrically in the Red Sea, and probably elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, with *Chromodoris annulata* and *Risbecia pulchella*. Some confusion has existed concerning the identity of the two species of *Risbecia*.

**Habitat**

Coastal bay, Reef external slope, Reef front.

**Distribution**

Red Sea, Indian Ocean

**Identifying Features:**

- o White body with yellow spots.
- o Thin blue line on the mantle edge and on the gills edge.
- o More often found in pairs.

Shaun West

### Next Issue

- ✓ What's on Calendar
  - o Details of local and national diving events
- ✓ Nudibranch of the issue
  - o Another little critter for you to keep a lookout for.

### Coming Soon:

- ✓ More "Your new committee"
  - o Personalised detail of your committee.
- ✓ Your article?
  - o **Something you want to share?**

