

Alsager Sub-Aqua Club: Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Date 15/05/25

Present: AA, RJ, EH, ME, LE, BH, KP, BH, SW, AW, AT, GP, ST, WC, GB, MC, AC, GO, MR, BD, PR, PW, JC

Apologies: EP, CT.

Chairmans Welcome: Welcome to our expedition leaders, trainers, social organisers, the committee, and anyone who helped with all our activities.

Our website upgrade this year has been a great success and has led to several new members. Thank you to all contributors.

Chairman's Report AA:

I said last year "Significantly we are now much better resourced with trainers."

This has shown marked improvement in the health of our club.

This is both in the amount and quality of training we do and in the increase in expeditions.

Shore diving, hard boat and yet to come this year the Egypt trip.

I am pleased to note all members doing the best they can to move forward in their own personal goals as well as furthering the branch as a whole.

Treasurer's Report AA:

I am resigning from this and the membership secretary roles this time.

Christian has agreed to replace me, and I urge you to give him all your support.

This time we have a surplus of £4233.49 for the period April 2024 to April 2025.

Our biggest expense is still the pool costs, but we did have compressor maintenance to pay for this period.

Funds breakdown as at end of April 2025		Last year
Cash	£450.93	£338.98
Bank	£1582.79	£668.26
Reserve	£7123.33	£3909.95
Total funds	£9157.05	£4917.19
Appropriated	£4022.17	
Available	£5134.88	

As usual BSAC have introduced a small annual increase to their fees.

Unlike last year there is a plan to increase ASAC subs this year.

I propose the following: -

to stop collecting fees for use of the pool by members.

Increase the fee for non-members to £10.

Increase the one-off first-time joining fee from £50 to £100.

Increase the annual branch levy from £80 to £100.

I believe these changes in line with the reduced costs we have negotiated for the use of the pool will halt the drain on our reserves over the last seven years.

The proposal was debated, amended and passed in the following detail: -

It was agreed club fees would go up from £80 to £100 p.a. next year, joining fees £50 up to £100 but pool fees for members would be removed. Also agreed for non-members only, the pool fee for swimming stays at £5 but non-members using SCUBA charged £10 per night.

Please would all members assist the new treasurer by using online payment for all payments.

Membership Secretary's Report AA:

At last year's AGM we had 24 members.

We welcome new members and regret leavers.

Starters this year are Simon, Leah, Gino, Eric, Kathleen, Barbara, Nichols, Neil, Ben and Madison.

We had a few leavers Sam Julia and Emma, and we lost one of our lifelong members which makes our current membership count 30.

Our lifelong member John Chadwick has recently passed away.

The committee has decided to rename our training award in his memory.

Diving Officer's Report - RJ:

RJ noted improvements in the club and the good atmosphere.

He thanked all for progress made in their diving, that assists the club, and eases workload/worry.

He looked forward to a busy diving calendar over the next 12 months.

As the club does get larger, he asked that members remember health and safety, and particularly not to use club equipment for open water dives. This is forbidden because of club liability issues. Divers must be suitably qualified (depth and standard) and club dives approved by the DO and/or TO. Open water dives require use of own equipment. Next of kin details and completion of a medical declaration and membership fees should be up to date for BSAC and ASAC.

Training Officer's Report - EH:

Congratulated SW who qualified as Sports Diver. Well done to LE for her progress made this year.

Equipment Officer's Report BH:

BH reported the compressor was running well, and thanked BD for all the work done.

Social Secretary's Report AL:

AL noted a zip wire event was planned.

Positions for the coming year:

Equipment Officers – GB and WC added to this role to assist BH (rota to be arranged).

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –Christian Turner appointed our new Membership secretary and Treasurer.

Assistant TO – EH asked for assistance and GP was happy to take on the role of Assistant TO.

Other officers happy to continue in their existing roles.

Secretary – AT.

Welfare Officer – GO.

Diving Officer - RJ

Awards 2025

Diver of the year (most dives) – Bernie Hassall.

John Chadwick Award (Trainee/Trainer of the year) presented to Leah Evans.

Member of the year presented to Elaine Hassall.

Expedition leader of the year presented to Gavin Beardmore.

DBA Award presented to Shaun Wakefield for multiple problems in the heads.

Any Other Business:

1. ST noted concerns of safety for Live aboard boats in the Red Sea was referred to a recent email from the organiser. This may be discussed outside the meeting.
2. PR gave an update of the progress made on the Sport England Crowdfunding web page.
3. Video prepared by MR/GO was shown. AT thanked AW/SW all for their assistance.
4. PR asked that the summary of ideas to raise money be circulated (AT)
5. MR was investigating a Xmas gig with 3 bands, and comedian at £30 per ticket at Alsager Civic Centre. Arrangements mostly complete.
6. AC offered a stay at their Barbados lodgings. PR offered a day's sailing aboard his yacht in Wales.
7. PR noted SE advised - try to get a large amount of people to contribute £1-2 and the amounts add up.
8. WC asked if a poster could be made to advertise the money raising. MR to design, RJ to print.