

HULL BRANCH No 14
BRITISH SUB-AQUA CLUB
NEWSLETTER NO 201
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Four of our members were delighted to attend Scarborough club's artefact night which was held on the Hatherleigh in Scarborough harbour. Our four won a quiz and were awarded a book as a prize.

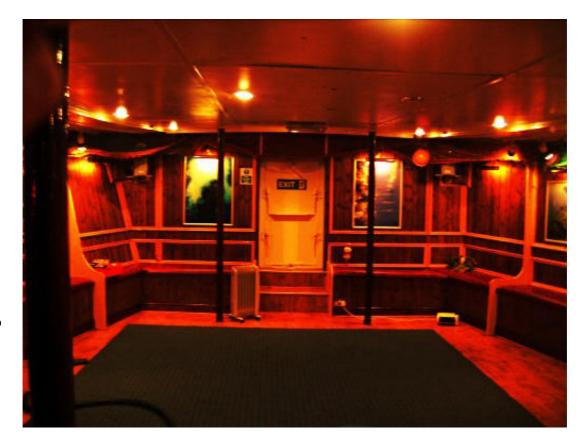




Some of the artefacts on display

The bridge





The Meeting Room that used to be the fish-hold

The engine room



AN EXPLOSIVE TALE

My old club, Burton on Trent, was associated with the Derbyshire Federation of Sub-Aqua Clubs, which organised all sorts of activities.

One activity was a weekend course on EXPLOSIVES. So, a pal and myself attended.

Saturday was given to theory and the instructor, a naval officer called Allan Bax, showed the different tackle available.

On Sunday we all went to a quarry, near Matlock, for practical experience.

The quarry had a pond with cliffs behind and the first demonstration was a long length of Cortex laid on the ground near the water's edge. An electrical detonator was fastened to one end. We all retired behind a rise in the ground and the explosive was fired.

There was a huge, sharp bang and the ground shook.

When we looked at the result there was a deep groove along the line of the Cortex.

Various other techniques were used, slow fuses, all used with the main explosive Plastic Explosive.

Eventually we were all asked to choose our own project. Some decided to cut through a steel pipe, some split a plank down its length, others cut a plank

across itself. When the instructor came to us my pal said "We want to make a big Bomb".

So, we ended up with a large lump of plastic explosive with a length of Cortex passing through it with a knot at the bottom (like a conker on a string) and an electrical detonator and a long length of wire.

When all the others had exploded theirs we threw our bomb into the pond and retired behind the bank.

We touched the wires onto a car battery and there was a huge bang and the water shot up about thirty feet into the air.

We were told that before you can buy explosive you had to go to the police and prove that you were a fit and proper person, then you could buy from the manufacturer.

Also, if there was any explosive left over when the job was finished, it had to be used up,

Don





TO ALL
FROM
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