

SCOTTISH DIVER

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Scottish DIVER is produced by
Freetime Publishing under contract to the
Scottish Sub-Aqua Club.

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ISSN 0308 7379

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COVER PHOTO:
Thornback Ray
(west coast of
Ireland)
Image courtesy of
Jane Burnett

WELL HERE we are in the middle of October already, the nights are drawing in and although the temperature has stayed quite high the rain has been coming down by the gallon. As the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency go to press with urgent warnings that Scotland's climate will become warmer and wetter over the next decade, **SCOTTISH DIVER** brings you two tales of the potential consequences.

Jane Burnett reports on an unusual species spotted in Ireland, far from its' usual home in the Med, and Calum Duncan tells of an explosion in the population of a native species - possibly because of warmer sea temperatures. But the news isn't all good and both articles make it clear that recreational divers have an important role to play in reporting the changes taking place around our shores.

As the open-water diving season draws to a close for some, training is in full swing for lots of potential divers around the country. The new Sport Diver training materials, launched by the National Diving Council (NDC) at the end of September, will hopefully make the learning process easier for instructors and trainees alike. Branch Diving Officers should have received their copies of the lecture materials and anyone can download the accompanying lecture notes from the website at: www.scotsac.com/downloads.htm#training.

For those who dive throughout the year, ScotSAC has just launched a range of leisurewear to keep you warm in the surface interval. The range comes in a choice of colours and includes cosy fleeces, hats, sweatshirts and T-shirts, all with the ScotSAC logo and space for your name, the name of your branch or some other text of your choice. One branch has already ordered 'tour t-shirts' for their next trip to the Red Sea.

The ScotSAC member survey has now closed and results will be published in the next issue of **SCOTTISH DIVER**, and on the

photo courtesy
Carl L. Myer



going overboard

ScotSAC website. Early results included requests for email notification whenever the website is updated and an electronic version of **SCOTTISH DIVER**.

Email notification of website updates have now been set up and you can sign up at www.scotsac.com/news.htm#website_updates. **SCOTTISH DIVER** articles may be downloaded at www.scotsac.com/Scottish_Diver.htm.

Members also mentioned that they don't know who is who on the General Committee (GC) and the National Diving Council (NDC) - so check out Diver Profile in this issue which introduces Assistant NDO, Kev Watson. Last issue we featured Jan Crawford our Child and Vulnerable Adult Officer, and future issues will put other members of the GC or NDC under the spotlight. Any further changes resulting from the member survey will be published in future issues and on the website - so watch this space!

Alison Fish

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