




<b>Organiser</b>	Helen Morris	
<b>Objectives</b>	Enjoy a day of diving on the south coast and, where relevant, complete some training.	
<b>Dive Manager</b>	As the dive manager, <b>Helen Morris</b> will try to ensure things run smoothly all round. She will be responsible for the diving activities and for safety: please make her life easier by following any instructions/directions given. Any problems or queries please contact Helen.	
<b>Deputy Manager</b>	A deputy will be nominated before the day of the dive to act as Deputy Manager and will take over responsibility when Helen is in the water on her own dive.	
<b>Diving Party</b>	<b>Diving:</b> (pairings) Helen Morris (1) Garry Tame (2)	<b>Diving:</b> (pairings) Lee Morris (1) Andy Briars(2)
<b>Meeting Point</b>	<b>To be confirmed</b>	
<b>Dive Site</b>	Swanage Pier can be dived at any state of the tide. In the summer months the pier legs are completely covered with invertebrate life and the marine animals are varied and prolific including: sea squirts, sponges, hydroids, Tom Pot blennies, gobies, wrasse, sea bass, john dories, lobsters, squat lobsters, cuttle fish, squid, the odd trigger fish, shoals of pollack, hundreds of spider and edible crabs, anemones with their tentacles wafting in the current and snails and hermit crabs going about there business. Towards the far end of the pier there is a bench, and there are numerous girders littering the seafloor. The pier posts are covered in barnacles and kelp.	
<b>Directions</b>	Please refer to attached Route map and directions to Swanage.	
<b>Transportation</b>	For those taking their car, limited parking (38 spaces only) is available on the Pier and costs £6 per day. Car Sharing: TBA	
<b>Equipment</b>	You will need full open water kit, delayed SMB, reel, appropriate cylinders. Divers Down, the dive shop situated on the Pier, sells a range of kit if you should have any kit failures or leave any essentials behind. Divers Down also rents individual pieces of equipment from £5 a day, and complete equipment sets for £40 for the day. For more information, check out <a href="http://www.diversdownswanage.co.uk">www.diversdownswanage.co.uk</a> or call them on 01929 423565. Divers Down is Britain's oldest Dive School and is celebrating its 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday this year.	
<b>Dive Plan</b>	<p>Divers should plan to arrive at the Pier for <b>10.00am</b>. There is easy access into the water via steps at high tide, or big stride in off platforms further along the pier: divers can choose their method of entry to get in for their dive, either swimming round from steps, a stride entry from the fairly low down landing stage, or a huge leap from the high end of the pier. However, divers should be aware that the end of the Pier is popular for line-fishing and should conduct their dives accordingly.</p> <p><i>If there is enough interest, I will explore the possibility of booking places for divers on the "Mary Jo", a hardboat operated by Swanage Boat Charters visiting the "Kyarra": this will not be a suitable dive for the trainees.</i></p>	
<b>Air</b>	Fills are available from Divers Down. Fill costs are: Pony cylinder 3L £2.20 Cylinder 10-12L £3.00 Cylinder 15L £3.20 Nitrox is also available at £7.00 for a 10 or 12 ltr tank filled up to 39%.	
<b>Tide Times</b>	Low Tide – 08.00 hours High Tide – 14.00 hours Low Tide – 20.00 hours	
<b>Other information &amp; Amenities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a small shop on the Pier at Marine Villas, selling food, drinks and snacks.</li> <li>• There are Ladies and Gents toilets on the Pier each with a hot shower.</li> <li>• The Pier is open during the summer from 8am and closes approximately one hour before dusk.</li> <li>• For non-divers:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Steam trains run to and from Norden calling at Corfe Castle and Harmans Cross.</li> <li>○ Boats operate to Bournemouth, Poole, the Isle of Wight and along the Purbeck Heritage Coast.</li> <li>○ Durlston Country Park operates an 'Under The Pier Show'.</li> <li>○ The Pier Shop has an exhibition of pier history, a display of model RNLI Lifeboats, a collection of saucy postcards by Donald McGill and several 'Penny in the Slot' machines in working order, as well as artefacts donated to the Pier by Divers on show.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<b>Costs</b>	The Pier Trust charges <b>£2.00 each</b> per day for Divers entering the Pier. Divers sharing cars will need to agree between themselves how they share petrol and parking costs.																																													
<b>To do</b>	<b>Everyone –</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Liaise with your instructor to agree what training you need to do.</li> <li>2. Let Derek Angus know what training you and your instructor have agreed to do.</li> <li>3. Email me to confirm that you can make the trip.</li> <li>4. Let Helen know if you can give/will need a lift, and she will try and match passengers to spaces.</li> <li>5. Helen will phone/email people should there be any major changes in plans, cancellations, weather problems, etc...</li> </ol>																																													
<b>Helplines:</b> (Please check if there are updated numbers)	<table border="0"> <tr><td>Poole Hyperbaric Hotline 1</td><td>–</td><td>01426 316636</td></tr> <tr><td>Poole Hyperbaric Hotline 2</td><td>–</td><td>03367 771883</td></tr> <tr><td>Institute of Naval Medicine</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>- Gosport Hotline</td><td>–</td><td>07831 151523</td></tr> <tr><td>DAN National Emergencies</td><td>–</td><td>01224 585747</td></tr> <tr><td>Portland &amp; Weymouth Coastguard</td><td>–</td><td>01305 760439</td></tr> <tr><td>DDRC Poole</td><td>–</td><td>01202 678278</td></tr> <tr><td>DAN Non-emergencies</td><td>–</td><td>01970 821222</td></tr> <tr><td>Portland Hospital</td><td>–</td><td>01305 860111</td></tr> <tr><td>DCI Poole A&amp;E</td><td>–</td><td>01202 442202</td></tr> <tr><td>Medical Dorchester A&amp;E</td><td>–</td><td>01305 251150</td></tr> <tr><td>Portland Police</td><td>–</td><td>01305 821205</td></tr> <tr><td>Marine Call (Lyme Regis to Selsey Bill and 12 miles offshore)</td><td>–</td><td>0891 505357</td></tr> <tr><td>Onshore – Dorset &amp; Hampshire</td><td>–</td><td>0891 505303</td></tr> <tr><td>Radio Wessex FM (97.2 MHz) at:</td><td></td><td>0630, 0730, 0830 and 1325 everyday + 1630 and 1730 weekdays</td></tr> </table>	Poole Hyperbaric Hotline 1	–	01426 316636	Poole Hyperbaric Hotline 2	–	03367 771883	Institute of Naval Medicine			- Gosport Hotline	–	07831 151523	DAN National Emergencies	–	01224 585747	Portland & Weymouth Coastguard	–	01305 760439	DDRC Poole	–	01202 678278	DAN Non-emergencies	–	01970 821222	Portland Hospital	–	01305 860111	DCI Poole A&E	–	01202 442202	Medical Dorchester A&E	–	01305 251150	Portland Police	–	01305 821205	Marine Call (Lyme Regis to Selsey Bill and 12 miles offshore)	–	0891 505357	Onshore – Dorset & Hampshire	–	0891 505303	Radio Wessex FM (97.2 MHz) at:		0630, 0730, 0830 and 1325 everyday + 1630 and 1730 weekdays
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<b>The Pier – A Potted History</b>	<p>The Swanage area is famous for its Purbeck Limestone, and during the 19th Century the quarrying of this stone formed the basis of the local economy. Originally the quarried stone would be taken to the shore and loaded onto small, shallow draft vessels that would sail offshore to where the larger ocean-going ships lay at anchor. The stone would then have to be transferred again, before being shipped around the coast to various parts of the country.</p> <p>In 1859 Parliament passed the 'Swanage Pier Act' which authorised the construction of a wooden pier to a length of 750ft, long enough to allow the stone to be loaded directly onto the large ships. However, stone quarrying, as with many other industries, went into recession and the original Pier fell into a state of disrepair. Looking for new ways of bringing prosperity to the town, the local authorities agreed to build a new 'pleasure pier' starting in 1895 which stretched for 642ft and attracted leisure paddle steamers. During the 1920s the timber piles were subsequently lined with concrete, but the Pier was closed during the Second World War for fear of a German invasion and was not re-opened until 1948. At this time the old wooden pier was being used only by local clubs as a diving platform, and soon closed. The remains of its timber piles can still be seen to the east of the surviving pleasure pier. Steamer traffic ceased in the 1960s and for the next 20 years the Pier fell into a state of dilapidation. After a failed attempt to restore the Pier in 1986, it came into the ownership of the Swanage Pier Trust in 1993 which raised a substantial amount of money to fund repair works between 1996-1998 including the replacement of nearly one-third of the supporting piles, a new timber deck, restoration of the ironwork and the construction of several wind shelters. Swanage Pier Trust is a registered charity manned principally by volunteers who carry out a variety of tasks. The Pier Master is a volunteer among the many others who man the gates and operate the Pier Shop and Exhibition. For more information, check out the Pier Trust at <a href="http://www.swanagepiertrust.com">www.swanagepiertrust.com</a>. Separate from The Pier Trust are The Pier Friends who raise funds to support the Pier. Find out more about the Friends at <a href="http://www.swanagepierfriends.co.uk">www.swanagepierfriends.co.uk</a>.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>																																													

**Travel directions from the M27 motorway.**

1. From the M27, head West bound until you come to Ringwood
2. From Ringwood, continue along the A31 to Bournemouth and follow signs for Poole/Dorchester
3. When you get to Poole follow the A35 until you get to the roundabout which gives you the option to go to Dorchester or Wareham, take the Wareham exit.
4. Follow the A351 to Sandford and continue to Wareham
5. From Wareham take the A351 past Corfe Castle and continue to Swanage.
6. Arriving from Wareham and Corfe Castle, the town centre signs lead you to the sea front in which case turn right keeping the sea on your left to arrive at the pier.

There is a small car park at the Pier, however, it fills quickly at the weekend. If there is insufficient room to park here, then head for the parking areas to the south and the east of the Pier (see photo below).



Directions for Broad Road (Long Stay) Car Park, to the East of the Pier: from the town centre turn left towards the quay. Take the Second on the right onto Seymour Road left into the car park.