



GLUG Monthly Meeting

January 19, 2012

<http://www.phoenixartistclub.com>

Present: Martín S, Brian B, Val C, Mark V

Apologies: Debbie P. Corinne S. Steph B.

Chair's Report: Phoenix membership

Apologies! It was my intention to have the agenda posted to the website for the January meeting, but time was not on my side this month! BAD NAUGHTY CHAIR!

Many thanks to all who attended the AGM & Christmas party. It was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. A silver bracelet was recovered amongst the baggage, so if anyone has lost one, please give me a shout.

We have received an email from SUBS who are also linked with Diving For Life with their newsletter. I will organise a link to them on the website.

Maurice, the proprietor of The Phoenix Artist's Club passed away just before Christmas. I have already sent a letter of condolence to the club on behalf of GLUG but wondered whether members would like to make a donation to one of the charities of his choice? St John's Hospice where he was looked after, or THT. Members present agreed to this.

There are still vacancies for the South Africa trip for those who wish to book!

I organised a Dry Dive at the London Diving Chamber due to several requests last year. We need 6 people to make it work, so far we only have 2! If we do not have enough members by next Tuesday I will have to cancel the event and refund deposits. If you're interested, please book NOW!

Suggested donation for use of GLUG kit is £5 per day for tanks & £5 per day for BCD & or Regs. There will be no charge for using GLUG weights.

The mandate forms for the GLUG account have once again come unstuck and therefore we have been unable to change the signatories on the account! This will come in time. In February we plan to begin giving a more in-depth financial report that will reflect the budgets set down by the relevant officers, once the Christmas rush is over. Mark & Debbie are looking at the possibility of an online accounts system and the possibility of obtaining a third bank account that allows us to access online banking which would be less of a headache for us all!

We have been contacted by www.gaystarnews.com a new international gay website. They are looking for gay groups to link up with them and also for feedback on the site which is a Beta site at the moment. I will look at organizing links with them and pass on the information to Val as this could be a really excellent way to market the club, our events and Try Dives.



Some of you have asked about membership to The Phoenix Club. The Phoenix is a private membership club for actors and such. GLUG gets to use the club as I am a member. Some GLUGER's have enquired whether they can use the club outside of GLUG meetings. The management have agreed to offer GLUG members a reduced rate. The normal joining fee is £120, GLUG members have been offered membership for £50! This means you can access the club 7 days a week and after 7.30pm when the club adopts its Members Only Policy. If you wish to join, please contact The Phoenix for more details and ask for Graham, Mark or Tom and tell them you are a member of GLUG.

I would ask anyone with any ideas for social events for the club to email the committee with ideas or details and to encourage members to organise trips and events. Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it!

Vice Chair's Report:

Nothing to report

Membership Secretary's Report:

20 paid members so far

Some members are still paying the old amount, so please check your standing orders and make sure it's all sorted. If your standing order has gone out for £10 you can pay the rest into the club account by BACS or contact Mark for other ways to pay

Webmaster's Report:

Website needs a fairly hefty update on Wordpress. Trip organisation page has been updated to give a more user friendly booking form. The Committee email list issues are now sorted and the Paypal links are now up to date with new fees.

Treasurer's Report:

No official report but spoke on the phone.

Debbie unable to get statements for this meeting but is looking at the possibility of setting up a linked account for the trip system so trip organisers can check monies in and out.

Debbie and Mark looked at an online accounts package, but it is pretty complex for what we need so it's likely we'll stick with a normal spreadsheet.

Publicity Officer's Report:

We are looking at obtaining another bus for London Pride, but we don't get figures of costs until March time. By then we'll have a better idea of our membership numbers too. Val is looking at the idea of fundraisers for Pride, to be held in March, April time. GLUG pulled out of Brighton last year because of the high costs; we need to think about the possibility of supporting somewhere else. Manchester was suggested. Brighton has always given us good numbers for signing up, but the costs may well



outweigh the benefits now. Val will organise a working party and volunteers are requested to contact Val. Your club needs YOU!

UK Co-ordinator's Report:

All Corinne's trips are now posted on the website and are taking bookings online.

Equipment Officer's Report:

Nothing to report. All tanks are in service and Regs will be serviced before the beginning of the season.

Training Officer's Report:

I ran an unofficial Try Dive for two prospective GLUG members on Sunday in association with our friends at Dive Wimbledon. There are a number of training events planned at the moment. Booking is open for the Introduction to UK Diving trips and training will be posted to the website in due course. If anyone wants a training course that that isn't on the website, please just ASK!

An open water referral course will be running in the next month or so and a post will be sent out once the dates are finalised.

Please also see the trip for the Dry Dive at The London Diving Chamber at St John's Wood.

AOB:

Dorothy divers need a membership secretary. Robert P a new BSAC member of GLUG kindly volunteered to take over from Fi. Fi is off on her travels for a year and whilst being sorely missed, will provide lots of input to our blog and trip reports page. Many thanks for that Fi ;-)

We are still hoping for members to upload more photos to the website (NOT the Facebook page!) There is a link on the gallery page or email Mark for further information.

Member's Feedback:

Scott Roberts from Gaydar Radio is interested on doing a piece with GLUG and Martin will follow this up.