

Edition 1/2006

Welcome to the first issue of Beaufort Charters Aquacast. We hope you find it of interest and informative, as it is designed to keep all our contacts and customers in touch with what's happening on Aquavitesse.

LATEST

The latest news is that Nick Light is now working in conjunction with Beaufort Charters, the new owners of Aquavitesse. Noel West, a director of Beaufort, and Nick will be sharing the skippering of Aquavitesse to still bring all their customers some of the best sport fishing on the south coast. Essentially an arrangement has been agreed that allows the progressive handover of the boat and business that suits both Noel and Nick.



Nick Light and Barry Andrews from Kent with a 15 lb Pollack caught on a mid Channel wreck

Nick will still be the main man up to the end of June when Noel takes over, closely assisted and guided by Nick.

Sounds great in theory, and so far it's also working out well in practice!

Noel has recently passed a conversion course from Yachtmaster sail to motor with a commercial endorsement so he is now fully qualified to skipper Aquavitesse up to 60 miles from a safe haven. The next stage is to learn from Nick the finer points of fishing from Brighton and to get to know all our regular anglers.

Noel is no stranger to fishing as he first started his career catching mackerel off Newhaven breakwater at the age of 8, which he subsequently sold around the local caravan site.

He returned to fishing as a teenager working on the North Sea trawlers out of Lowestoft on the east coast – out for 14 days, in for 3 and then out for another 14 played havoc with his social life! but a great way to learn about fish. He was mainly fishing for plaice on the bottom ground and cod over rough ground, which put his net mending skills to good use.

FISHING

February and March have not been kind in weather terms and much of the time Aquavitesse has been tied to the pontoon in Brighton marina, but on the occasions they have been out, customers have been very successful, catching Pollock on the mid Channel wrecks. The largest was around 22 lbs with the average in the 10-15 lbs range, mostly

caught using redgills and jellyworms on long traces.

One angler was particularly successful using a shad wrapped in baking foil. Is this the secret?

THE BOAT

Time spent in the marina has given us plenty of opportunity to maintain essential servicing, keeping the boat in tiptop condition.

In January Aquavitesse was out of the water for her annual refit. Antifouling was the best job for Noel to get to know the boat (according to Nick), while Nick was busy polishing the topsides. However Nick did find time to reglass the deck a very fetching grey.

Although Aquavitesse is only 4 years old we are starting an update programme, aimed mainly at enhancing customer facilities. We have recently installed a new water heater for making easier and faster coffee and tea, a wipe clean notice board (more about this later) and a drop down flat screen TV and DVD player. This will let you watch soccer, rugby or cricket on the way home to help the journey pass more quickly. If you have a favourite DVD by all means bring it along or if you know of any excellent fishing DVDs, please let us know.

MASTERCLASS

Have you ever wondered:
Why are Redgills called Redgills when they can be green, white or black?
What's the best way to join mono to braid?
How do you livebait for bass?

Well to find out the answers to these questions and many more we are launching a series of Masterclasses run by Nick Light.

They will be a full day's sea angling participative class, designed for newcomers to



Fresh water angler very pleased with his first sea fishing success

the sport as well as fresh water fisherman looking for sea fishing experience. Aquavitesse already offers some of the best charter fishing on the south coast, so as he moves into retirement it is natural for Nick, with his easy and relaxed teaching manner, to pass on his knowledge. Nick has been fishing for more than 40 years, so even experienced sea anglers will find his masterclass a useful way of honing their skills.

The emphasis will be on teaching and learning, with no pressure to catch fish, but to explore and try out new techniques, gear, etc.

The day begins with full English breakfast at the Brighton Marina Club House followed by a presentation on tackle, including baits, knots and rig building, complete with hands-on sessions. The session ends with a discussion on the various techniques for wreck fishing, rock and ground fishing.

For the second part of the day, we take a picnic lunch aboard Aquavitesse and set off for an afternoon's fishing to put into practice the skills learnt in the morning session.

We return to Brighton marina late afternoon, for a de-briefing and Q and A session in the Club, and also to sample some taster dishes of sea fish cooking.

The classes will be for a maximum of 8, and, at £98.00 per person, we believe they will be very popular.



Amanda's first trip on Aquavitesse

AQUACAST

Well this is our first attempt at keeping you all informed of action on Aquavitesse on a regular basis. If you can suggest a better name for this missive, then please let us know. The best name submitted will win a free, mid week trip on Aquavitesse for one person. The skipper's decision is final as always!

Feel free to send us your comments as we would appreciate your views – even if it is a request to come off the circulation list!

Noel and Nick look forward to seeing you on the boat soon and both wish you – tight lines.

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The first 2 dates we have released are Thursday 6th July and Thursday 17th August, so it's first come, first served.

To book your place please send your e-mail to noelwest@ukonline.co.uk.