

The Scuba Trust

37 Five Elms Drive
Romsey
Hampshire
SO51 5RN

Tel: 07922 557155
Email: info@scubatrust.org



November 2021

Message from the Chair, Far Far Away

My message comes from Montreal where we are visiting our first Grandchild. Baby Elise is doing well. We were also pleased to say that **Catherine Cummings**, who many of you will know, also has a new arrival to her family. Congratulations, **Cate and Craig!**

We are pleased to be back training in the pool at last and sessions have gone well. Holidays are feeling a bit closer and I believe that Egypt, Sharm at least, is moving off the red list any day now.

Fundraising has been going well and we are more financially secure than we have been for many years.

The 25th Anniversary celebration went well. Thanks to all those who helped make the event run smoothly. We are well placed and resourced to move the Trust forward and continue the brilliant work that everyone contributes to.

So onwards and upwards for the Trust now we are hopefully combatting this pandemic at last.

Eric Bellworthy



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www.scubatrust.org

Charity Number 1053574





25th anniversary celebrations

We celebrated the Scuba Trust's 25th year with a get-together at Frimley Manor after the September pool session. **Mr. Alan Kenny**, one of our long-serving members, cut the anniversary cake. Alan was one of the first members who trained with the Trust and is a regular attendee at pool sessions and holidays. A large spread was laid on thanks to several Trust members.

Our thanks to past and present members who have supported the Trust over the years. Long may we keep it going and here's to the next 25 years.

Frank Buchanan





Many thanks to Jen, Laura, Faye and others for their photos of some of Alan's adventures.

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General update

Despite the lockdown, the Trustees and helpers have been working hard behind the scenes. Applications for grants and funding have been applied for, and granted. The van has had several adaptations made to it and the battery has had to be replaced, probably due to the lack of use over the lockdown period. The kit servicing is up to date. The try dives/pool sessions are back into full swing. We have tried to get longer sessions but unfortunately there isn't the pool time capacity at the moment, but we are ever hopeful. The training side is progressing well with a lot of courses are nearing completion now the lockdown is a distant memory

Land's End to John O'Groats for the Scuba Trust

Faye Wilde has now completed her virtual Land's End to John o'Groats (LEJOG) challenge by walking, running and swimming the distance of 1,744KM and raised a fantastic sum of £520 plus gift aid. Faye would like to thank all her very kind sponsors for their donations and support.



Special thanks too to Simon Licence's nephew, Joe, who has just completed the Manchester marathon, raising funds for the Scuba Trust!



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Try dive dates for 2022

Venue Heathfield School, Ascot, Berks. 12:00hrs to 14:00hrs

January 9th

February 13th

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

June 12th

July 3rd

August 14th

September 11th

October 9th

November 20th

December 11th

Please note no one should be on school grounds more than 10 minutes before any session and must be clear of the grounds no later than 15 minutes after.

COVID: If you have any signs of Covid please do not attend the session. If you are intending to attend a training session, please let **Howard Sobey** know by responding to the email sent out prior to each session. If you do not notify him you intend to come along, there may well be no instructor/equipment for you.

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Christmas Dinner

December 12th, after the pool session, Berystede Hotel, Ascot

£36 per person for 3 x course festive lunch

£119 - Accommodation B+B rate (double occupancy)

2 x accessible rooms available

Free onsite parking

Please let Frank or Jen Cluney know if you would like to join us. We have only 20 places available so don't delay. Please transfer your payment to The Scuba Trust, sort code 30-15-53 account 03405163. Your name as reference.

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Holidays

Daria has now taken over arranging the holidays, so far, the dates and destinations for 2022 are as follows:-

Hurghada – 20 seats including 1 bag 20kg *

06May22 Gatwick/Hurghada 1425/2055 hrs

13May22 Hurghada/Gatwick 2155/0235 hrs (14May)

Sharm El Sheikh – 20 seats including 1 bag 20kg *

06Oct22 Gatwick/Sharm 1425/2040 hrs

13Oct22 Sharm/Gatwick 2140/0210 hrs (14Oct)

Possibly Camel Dive Club but to be confirmed.

*Tui also offer 5kg extra FREE luggage allowance for diving equipment if diving cert is shown at check-in

“Diving Equipment and Licenses

If you're travelling with TUI, carrying diving equipment and you show your diving certificate at check-in, we'll give you an extra 5kg luggage allowance free. If you've got more equipment, you can check it in for an extra charge.”

Not included: Visa entry into Egypt, equipment rental, 15lt tanks, lunch & drinks on the boat, supplements for special diving trip.

There may still be some Covid restrictions in place at the time of travel.

We are just waiting for **prices to be finalised for the Sharm trip**. If you are interested in going let Daria know asap. It is booked on a first-come -first served basis and you **must have travel insurance in place before booking**.

Ensure your passport has at least 6 months left on it at the time of departure.

6th - 13th May 2022

Staying at the Marriot Hotel Hurghada on a half board basis. Price is for two people sharing a twin room. (if there are not two people there will be a single supplement)

Depart LGW 6th May 14.25hrs arr Hurghada Int 20.55hrs TUI fly TOM

Return Hurghada Int 13th May 21.55hrs arr LGW 02.35 14th May TUI fly TOM

Baggage 1 bag 20kgs + an extra 5kgs on production of cert card. Normal 5kg hand luggage.

Cost for flights, hotel and transfers £1095 + £15 trip shirt.

Diving with Aquarius, from Marriot jetty,

5 days diving (10 dives) 2 tank dives per day, £200.

Total for trip is £1310.00

£600 deposit pp to secure your place

Additionally, €5 food (around £4.30) for food on the boat if wanted, €5 park fees where it applies both paid locally.

Contact Daria if you would like to go. There are 20 places and it's on a first come basis. There are only two disabled rooms in the Marriot. We have stayed there before and all the rooms can accommodate a wheelchair but other than the two disabled rooms we cannot guarantee they will be completely chair friendly. Any further questions contact Daria on dariascubatrust@gmail.com.

Account details

Scuba Trust

Account 03405163

Sort code 30 15 53

Ref your surname/ Hurghada

Certifications

After what has seemed such a long time due to unforeseen circumstances and interruptions to training, I would just like to extend a warm welcome to the PADI professionals team and congratulations to **Michael Smart** who has successfully completed his PADI Divemaster qualification. Michael has progressed through his diving qualifications with upmost enthusiasm. Not only is Michael a very competent diver he also thrives on helping others. He has been a pleasure to teach and I know he will pass on his extensive knowledge onto his forthcoming students with the same figure he has shown throughout out all his training thus far.

Liam Coffey, PADI Instructor: #403435 www.scubatrust.org

AND

Congratulations too to **Adam Quarterman** for his persistence and finally achieving his Dive Master qualification. 5 years and 1 day! That has to be a record. Through illness, moving and family life, you finally got there.

Welcome to the PADI professional team, Mike and Adam!

****Thanks to Liam Coffey for being a driving force for diving continuity through the COVID lockdowns****



UK diving

Since the lockdown, life has started to get back to some kind of normality with diving. We have had some interesting days out with those in the Trust who like our British waters. We have dipped our fins into Stoney Cove, Vobster Quay, Wraysbury, Swanage and Freshwater Bay on the Isle of Wight.

If you fancy joining us, please get in touch. You need to be Advanced Open Water or equivalent and preferably drysuit trained.

Hoist at Vobster

Through Simon and Derrick Hunt, we have been investigating the possibility of installing a hoist on the quayside which would enable better access to the water for someone with mobility issues. Several options are being discussed. Hopefully we will be able to move this forward during the coming months. Watch this space.

So, Who Does What you might ask?

The Trustees are as follows:- **Eric Bellworthy** - Chair of Trustees (The Governor), **Frank Buchanan** - Treasurer, **Howard Sobey** - Try Dive Officer, **Liam Coffey** - IT, **Michael Smart** - Equipment Officer, **Simon Licence** and **Faye Wilde** - Fund Raising.

Fund raising subcommittee :Simon Licence, Faye Wilde, Sue & Mike Sparry, Dee Coffey, Howard Sobey and Derrick Hunt.

Holidays: Daria Gliszczynska

Equipment and van: Mike Smart and Dean Humphreys

Try Dive Officer: Howard Sobey and Nicole Smart with teas, coffees and cakes.

Newsletters and Twitter account - Suzanne Harper

Facebook page - Pippa Ashley.

Instructors: Senior Instructor - Frank Buchanan (PADI).

Eric Bellworthy (BSAC), Liam Coffey (PADI), Howard Sobey (BSAC), Ian Tucker (BSAC), Amanda Ford (BSAC) and Caroline & Dean Yeoman (NAUI).

These guys all have a deep passion for diving and give up their time freely to teach.

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