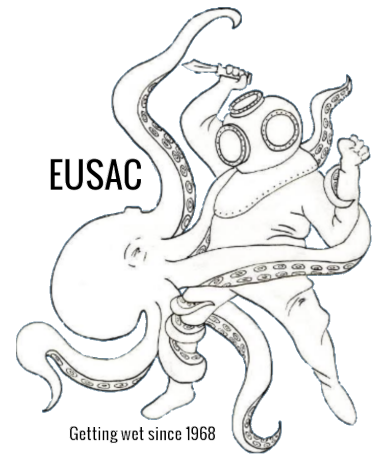


July/August 2019

# EUSAC Newsletter

Getting wet since 1968



Welcome to the second edition of the EUSAC Newsletter. With most of the club enjoying their summer holidays, club activity has been quiet. Those left in sunny Scotland have managed to get out and make the most of it!

## What have we been up to?

### Exploring the Clyde

At the end of July, several club members took Jura for some heavy skills-based training in the Clyde (**Paul Miller, Katie Tinkler, Cara Nicholson, Finn Crossley-Jones and Bernadette Butfield**). With diving officer, **Paul** continuing to develop his own training and experience, it was a perfect opportunity to introduce some more advanced skills to the group.

In recent committee meetings the club discussed the need to increase general boat skills including: radio communications; rescue management scenarios; rope work; navigation and boat handling. Whilst it is important to recruit new club members it is vital that we continue to develop the experience and skill set of existing club members to a more advanced level – this trip provided an opportunity for just that!

Prior to a weekend of adventurous and exciting diving, the group set about creating shot lines, planning passages through the Clyde, practicing radio skills and researching the wrecks they wished to explore. The group planned to explore various wrecks within the Clyde by locating and logging the site coordinates. They found GPS coordinates the trip around exploring wrecks they had not dived before. Once at a location, the group located or created transits to help identify the site. This proved more challenging in the afternoon as the mist and rain descended upon the Clyde, but they didn't let that stop them.



The weekend was a great success with two enjoyable wreck dives and multiple encounters with the local porpoises and grey seals. Another group will be visiting the Clyde towards the end of this month to continue training and gaining invaluable experience. The skills completed on these weekends are not limited members of the club who have completed more advanced BSAC qualifications.

As a club, we want to create a group of skilled divers on the surface as well as in the water. If you are interested in learning any of the skills discussed above, please express your interest to a member of the committee.

## Where have our club members been?

As always, the summer months are slightly quieter for the club with most members visiting home and elsewhere for their holidays. Some of our committee members have been enjoying the diving opportunities outside of Scotland.

Our expeditions officer, **Biddy Hyde**, has spent her summer exploring the depths of the Philippines on a volunteering placement. Whilst away she has been studying reef health by collecting marine substrate data, to help identify the relationship between coral and economically important fish species. She also celebrated her 100th dive in true style (not recommended for colder regions)!

If you have been diving elsewhere in the world this summer let us know where you have been! Share your stories and photos!



## Training

The past month has focused on providing further training to the more advanced members in the club. The recent trip to the Clyde was a great success and provided a small group of members the opportunity to develop valuable skills. Similar trips will be planned in the future to continue developing the skill set of our more advanced members.

## **Congratulations to...**

**Finn** and **Bernadette**, who recently completed their Dive Leader qualification. The pair will also be attending the Open Water Instructor Course on the 10 August to continue their training and enable them to assist with new recruits in September.

## **Upcoming Training**

The training officers have been hard at work planning the next few months for the club. We hope to complete Sports Diver training for those left in Edinburgh over the summer.

## **Regional Training Days**

If you are wanting to progress your training, please consider attending a regional day. BSAC South Scotland run the DTP days frequently throughout the year. The event is a great way to continue your qualification development outside of the club. Whilst our club instructors are happy to dedicate a significant amount of time to train our members, it is important that they also make time to practice and progress their own skill set. Similarly, for anyone wishing to gain instructor experience these training days are ideal. More importantly it is a fun way to meet other divers from the region!

To attend a regional training day please contact the event organiser, usually detailed on the BSAC South Scotland Members Facebook event page. Please be sure to advise the organiser of which lessons you wish to complete and confirm your attendance in advance of the date. If you are considering going along, please let the club know, as there may be other members you can buddy with on the day or just share transport. To keep up to date with regional training events make sure you are following the [BSAC South Scotland Members](#) Facebook page.

## **Club Hoodies**

We still have some 50th anniversary club hoodies for sale. If you haven't collected yours or would still like to purchase one please contact **Aaron Donaldson** for further information.



## Plans for next month and beyond

We are coming to the end of another brilliant summer and looking forward to the beginning of a new semester. Although August is set to be a fairly quiet month, the club will be visiting the Clyde once again for some advanced training and development. Looking towards September, the Sports Fair will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April. We hope to recruit lots of new enthusiastic divers to join us. If you would like to help at the Sports Fair or are able to spread the word of the club during Welcome Week, please let a member of the committee know.




As always, look out for the mailing list and Facebook page for updates!

### Timeline for the next month:

- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> August – Trip to the Clyde
- 31st August – Sports Diver Training Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> September – Day Trip to Farnes
- 11 & 12<sup>th</sup> September – Sports Fair
- 20<sup>th</sup> September – Big Social (location tbc)
- 27<sup>th</sup> September – Ocean Diver Lectures begin
- 28<sup>th</sup> September – IFC
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> October – Crossover Weekend
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November – Ocean Diver Training Weekend

### **President - Charis Walton**

For August, I would like the club to focus on building upon the successes from the first Clyde trip, as well as getting as many people as possible to the end of their Sports Diver qualification. I am excited to see who and what September brings the club, but for now would like to focus on our current members and what we can offer them.

BSAC Dive Show	Sea Tales Podcast	Plastic Free July – how did you do?
		
<p>Don't forget the BSAC Dive Show is taking place on the 26 &amp; 27 October 2019 at the Birmingham NEC. Tickets can be purchased <a href="#">here</a>!</p>	<p>If you want to fill your days with as much marine chat as possible, check out the <a href="#">Sea Tales Podcast</a>. Created by an Edinburgh local, the podcast covers topics of marine interest from around the UK, interviewing Scottish marine biologists, the British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) team and speakers from the Shark Trust. It is a great listen to learn a little bit more about the underwater world in this country.</p>	<p>As July as come to a close, so has the plastic free July challenge. If you took part, how did you get on? If you didn't maybe consider making a few changes over the next month. As a club we have been trying to bring our own lunch boxes with us on dive trips. If you have any ideas for the club please let a member of the committee know.</p>

If you would like to get more involved in the club in any way: from instructing to training, from selling old kit to suggesting trips or if you are interested in joining us on a trip yourself. Please email us, find us on Facebook, check out our Instagram and club website!

<https://www.instagram.com/edunisac/>

<http://www.eusac.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2201866487/>



University of Edinburgh  
EUSAC