



Dive Trip Organisation & Dive Planning

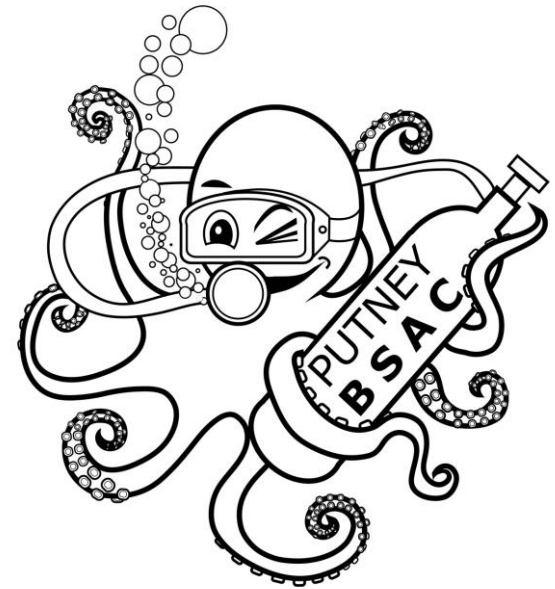
Aim of the presentation

How to organise a dive trip with PSAC

- Trip organisation - Who and why ?
- Dive trip - Where ?
- With whom ?
- How to put a trip together ?

Dive Planning

- Equipment considerations
- Run-time planning



Trip organisation Who and Why ?

Who can organise a dive trip

- YOU !!!
- Each club member can organise a trip and is encouraged to do so
- More experienced members are keen to help (some of them too keen)

Why should you ?

- Without dive trips we are not a dive club
We are members for members club 😊
- You can choose places you like
- You will learn and gain experience



First steps in organisation

Where to dive

- Generally you only need water but some places are better than others
- Club
 - past trips – [web page trip section](#)
 - members experience (talk to others)
- Dive Books & Dive Magazines
- Skippers (see Appendix A) & Internet

What to consider

- Some sites are more challenging than others depth and experience
- As one of first steps – contact D.O.



Dive planning night

- meeting dedicated to dive planning for next year
- Held in summer between June and AGM (in Nov)
- Great opportunity to get initial interest fast

Dive trip – First steps

Contact the diving officer (DO)

- If you consider to organise a dive trip best to contact DO as of first steps
- DO will help you with the planning and advise on free slots in dive calendar
- DO will ensure you consider the safety aspects
- You will discuss
 - Suitability of the dive sites and time
 - Preliminary plan – dive objective and max depths
 - Requirements for the divers (diver grades and experience)



Dive trip – Next steps

You have trip in mind now what ?

- You have now location and (approximate) timing of the trip
- With DO you sorted out the diver grade and interim dive objective and depths

Next step (Assuming Hard Boat WE)

- Make initial checks on prices and availability of skippers & accommodation
- Have initial thoughts on travel options and availability of dive shops for fills / equipment renting
- Aim is to have approx. idea about logistics and costs



Illustrative example

- Dive boat ~£50/day 2dives
- Accommodation B&B - say ~£30 night (usually 2 nights with room sharing)
- Travel costs, equipment hire & food, beer (vary)

Dive trip – With whom ?

Gauge interest from the club

- Get initial interest from club members
- Typically this is done by email that needs to contain
 - Description of dive trip
 - Where ? Location)
 - Why ? Purpose e.g. wreck diving, training etc
 - When ? (Approx.) timing
 - What diver grade and experience is required (e.g. SD, depth experience)
- Alternative to email possible – club nights, dive planning night



Dive trip – Putting it together I

Firm up the booking

- Once you have enough initial interest for trip to go ahead (as example typical size of UK boat is 12 divers and you need a DL in team) firm up the booking
- Send 2nd email confirming the costs and asking members to pay you deposit to secure their place (see also club rules re costs)
- The deposit should correspond to expected non cancellable costs
- In most cases you will be asked to put a deposit for boat and accommodation



Club rule

- If member pays deposit and then withdrawing from a trip must find a replacement or pay the full price of the trip
- please put this disclaimer in your second email.

Dive trip – Putting it together II

Congratulations

- Your trip is now set up !

Next steps several weeks before trip

- The dive planning will be firmed up with by a dive manager DM (which must not be always you - tbd with DO)
- Several weeks before trip you should
 - Together with DM pre-discuss the dive plan / timing of the “ropes off” / return of boat and any additional equipment that is required for the trip
 - Agree travel - typically car sharing and who is taking what equipment
 - Accommodation sharing
 - Tell people what kit they need (discuss with DM) & help to coordinate the equipment rental - although each member is responsible for own kit !

Dive trip – Putting it together III

Next steps – week or so before

- Finalise the plan of the trip and agree who is doing what on the trip – typical topics:
 - Air fills who and where
 - Finance / Costs – how and who will record / one person to keep the purse perhaps ?
 - Food – Locate restaurants or coordinate self catering
 - Where to park cars
 - Where are toilets
 - Any additional equipment (o2 kit ?)
 - Rented equipment – who when where
 - Dive manager (and assistant dive manager) collect next of kin information – tbd with DM/DO
- You are organiser but you don't need to do everything typical work – delegate !

Dive trip itself

Next steps – few days before

- Together with DM monitor weather (the skipper will usually make the last forecast day before)
- Keep participants informed

During trip

- You planned well – now execute 😊

After the trip

- Coordinate the return of equipment
- Sort out the finances
- DM will report to DO
- Trip report to Comms officer



PVC

- Putney Voluntary contribution
- small round up of the costs is typically done and send to club accounts

Appendix – some links to dive operators

Southcoast I

Easy to reach with car and great fun for sea life and wreck diving)

- **Eastbourne** (Our W – great boat, skipper and great memories of many great trips) <https://www.dive125.co.uk/>
- **Selsey** (easy to get to and possible to dive from shore as well) <https://www.mulberrydivers.co.uk/welcome>
- **Brighton** (easy to reach and great and stable boat and skipper) <http://www.channeldiving.com/>
- **Swanage** (again rather easy to reach, can be also dived as a shore dive or rhib) <https://www.diversdownswanage.co.uk/>
<http://kyarra.com/>

Appendix – some links to dive operators

Southcoast II

- **Weymouth** (Richard the skipper and his wife and most capable crew lady Sue are one of our own – former members of PSAC)
<https://www.weychieftain.com/>
- **Westbay** (nice wreck side – skipper is a great character and deffo a bundle of joy 😊) <https://www.westbaycharters.co.uk/west-bay-diving/>
- **Plymouth** (wrecks, walls dives and more) <https://discoverydivers.net/>
- **Cornwall** (well technically perhaps not quite the south coast but hey - optimally a week trip but worth it) <https://porthkerris.com/>

Appendix – some links to dive operators

North sea I

Yes a hike, chilly but legendary sites

- **Farne Islands** (this is a surreal site – play with seals, watch the nature reserve sanctuary islands. Lee is great skipper and very helpful host (his family owns accommodation and dive “shop” so he makes it all so seamless....) <http://www.farnedivingservices.com/>
- **St Abbs** (another epic nature reserve – chance to see a rare wolf fish and you will again love the accommodation in a harbour house ...) <http://divestabbs.com/>

Appendix – some links to dive operators

North sea II

- **Orkney Islands**, Scapa flow (this side is know among divers all around the world ... German 1st war high sea fleet was sunk here, this is probably one site that I list where you want to be SD+ as most ships are 30m+ deep and twinset is advisable ...) [http://www.mv-
valkyrie.co.uk/](http://www.mv-valkyrie.co.uk/) or <https://www.huskyan.com/>
- **Still more in UK** – Whales (Pembrokeshire), or Islands say - Channel islands, Island of Wight, Isl. of Scilly, Hebrides, Shetlands – most of them a week trip worth and all dived by the club just google and / or ask...

Appendix – some links to dive operators

Abroad

- This talk focuses on UK hardboat dive trip organisation but pretty much same applies to abroad trip – tends to be actually slightly easier as you usually use a dive center that offers wider services than a typical skipper would do
- Well here your wallet is your only limitation; I think we can say that the club dived most of the famous world sites over its history – Chuuk Lagoon, Galapagos, Great barrier, Egypt, Sipadan, Raja Ampat, Sri Lanka, Thailand, South Africa/Mozambique, Kenya, Medez Islands, Malta/Gozo, Croatia, Maledives, Cocos, the list is long... ask one of the committee members or instructors or “old members” for advise (reserve few hours) There are also few diving travel specialist agents – to name one <http://www.regal-diving.co.uk/>

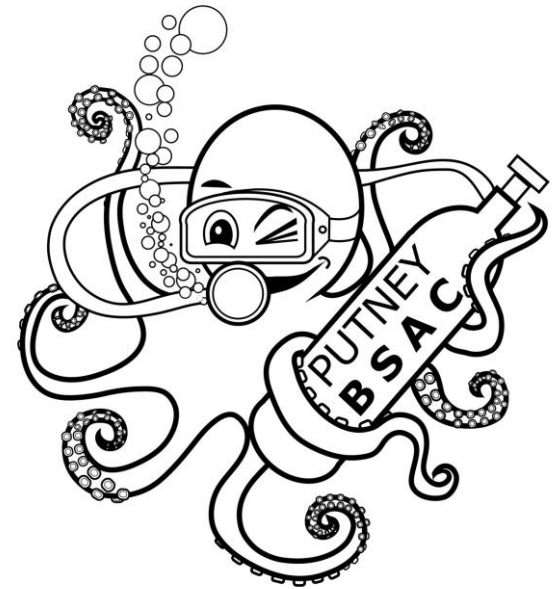
Dive Planning

Equipment Considerations

- Gas quantity needed & available
- Redundancy?
- Any specific items for the dive?

Run-time Planning

- No deco
- Decompression Diving



Equipment considerations

What cylinders do I have available and how much gas?

- O2 clean?
 - Can I utilise Nitrox for longer no stop times or shorter decompression
- What volume?
 - Gas available = cylinder vol x fill pressure
 - Gas needed = time x pressure x SAC x 1.5
- Do I have adequate redundancy for the dive?
 - Can I still carry out any required decompression stops?
- Will I need another cylinder for the second dive?



Equipment considerations

What other equipment do I need to bring?

- Is it a deep/dark dive?
- Do I intend on penetrating the wreck?
- Do I have to return to the shotline?
- Is a DSMB required to ascend?



Runtime planning – no deco

What is my planned dive profile?

- What is my maximum no stop time?
- How much gas do I need for the ascent and safety stop?
- How long will my gas last?
- How much Keep monitoring no-stop time and gas throughout the dive
- Ascend when one of these parameters reaches the agreed point

Remember to work out roughly what time you need to leave the bottom!

Remember to work out how much gas you need to leave the bottom with!



Runtime planning - deco

What is my planned dive profile?

- How much deco am I happy to incur?
- Do I have the gas for that dive?
- Do I have the gas for slightly deeper?
- Do I have the gas for slightly longer?
- Do I have the gas for slightly longer and slightly deeper?
- If not: Shorten original dive time and repeat the process

Dive time

Bottom time

Write these cases up on a slate or in wet-notes to follow!

Plan	Depth	45	9	6	0
	Stop	-	1	9	-
	Runtime	22	26	28	38

Longer	Depth	45	9	6	0
	Stop	-	2	15	-
	Runtime	24	28	31	47

Deeper	Depth	48	9	6	0
	Stop	-	2	15	-
	Runtime	22	26	29	45

Longer & Deeper	Depth	48	9	6	0
	Stop	-	3	18	-
	Runtime	24	28	32	51