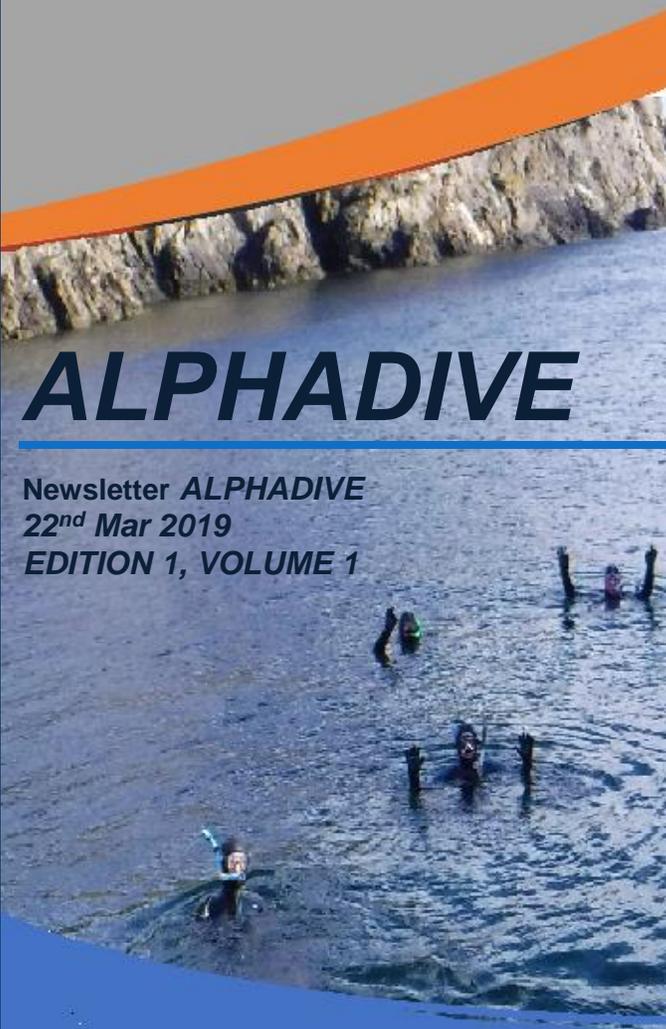




ALPHADIVE

Newsletter ALPHADIVE
22nd Mar 2019
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LAST YEAR

2018 was started with a snorkel in Skerries on New Year's Day
Jan- Mar Anthony Kept a close eye on those who completed their open water Snorkels in Loughshinney, Greenore, Clogher Head and Collinstown Lake, whilst Tommy organized with the fitness tests in the Kells Pool

Easter saw us taking our first dips in Malin Beg, it was a great weekend and 20 divers had their first dives of the season. We also had three 1Star Graduates- Daithi, Suzanne and Conor.

During the year we did many weekly dives in Greenore and Lambay. We supported Dundalk SAC in the N.E. Dive Rally and Dave's octopus photo featured alongside the divers in SubSea Magazine.

Our Club Holiday was in Castletownbere where 25 divers and their families enjoyed the comradery of the club.

Conor took us to Mullaghmore and Mick organized a trip to Killala. We dived on wrecks in Greenore, Strangford Lough and Lambay Island. Frank organized a weekend where a few brave souls ended the season in Killary Fjord.

On the training side – Paul led a very good Coxswain course and from the many potential candidates, David and Anthony qualified. Deirdre and Brianán got their 2Star and Deirdre also got her VHF Certificate. Quite a few did the Sea Search programme and we intend to continue with this.

Our Search and recovery arm had a quiet year but kept their good work going by doing exercises in Collinstown Lake. At the end of the Year we used a Lotto Grant to Fund a new Zodiac boat for Search and Recovery.

The snow storm buried the dive show in Limerick – Always worth a visit. The Barbeque and Christmas party with Joe Dolan were excellent.

Confusion reigned over our 2 annual trophies – the wooden belt and club person of the year.
Who knows what next year will bring.....

Child Safety

As we encourage members to have their children participate in club activities we are required to put child safety procedures in place and make all members aware of them.

All club members must tick the child protection guidelines box on go membership when filling out their medical disclaimer.

When you tick this box you are stating that you have read and understood the CFT code of conduct.

It is important to complete this as it is there to safeguard each member and advise the club as a whole on its child protection policy

Where divers under the age of 18 are involved, all club members must be aware of the CFT Code of Conduct for Children's Underwater Sport.

6. Clubs should be aware of the National Vetting Bureau Guidelines. The guidelines are available in the Child Protection Section of Document Downloads on www.diving.ie.

<https://iuc.azolve.com/Workbench.mvc/Show/40>

The major impact is

1. We need to appoint a Child Protection officer and a Liaison Officer
2. All instructors must be vetted
3. All members must be aware of their responsibilities regarding child safety



Gerard Cook is our Child Protection Officer he recently completed Safeguarding Club Children's Officer 1 & 2 Workshops



Braving the elements in Collinstown Jan 2019

Niall O'Reilly (1978-2015)

Niall O'Reilly was born in Arva, County Cavan. He grew up, an ordinary country lad, who did well at school, but as a goalkeeper, in his Under 12 football team, he did not attract the county selectors. As a tall lad he did better at basketball. Secondary school brought him to Moyne and later, St. Patrick's of Cavan, where he boarded and enjoyed his studies.

Niall went to Sligo I.T. and studied engineering and he proceeded to D.C.U. to further his engineering. Niall 's Dad was in joinery and Niall loved Design. Having got his feet on the ground in the world of engineering, Niall planned to go to Australia. How could you go to Oz without a diving qualification?

When Niall joined Alphadive in 2006 Pauline had been there a few years. by 2006 they had met and the whole world lay before them. In 2006 Niall took off to Australia in April but by December he felt he should come home. While Niall was in Australia Pauline had been honing her considerable diving skills in St. Lucia. Hard work! Niall had got as far as the Whitsunday Islands off New Zealand.

They enjoyed diving and in particular Kilkee. Pauline looked into the cave at Donegal Point and decided that it was better to go around the point on the outside. Wisely done!

Niall and Pauline were married in 2009 and soon Eoghan was born. Niall, who was always good with children, was now honing his skills at home. A man who loved adventure, he had dived, skied, water-skied, rode a balloon, rock climbed and abseiled down Table Mountain in Cape Town.

Niall was much loved in Alphadive because he was kind, personable and good to people. To conclude this little note on Niall I would like to mention how sport clubs and all caring groups work.

Members come and go. The shelf life of an active diver in Ireland is now only two years. Members bring their personalities, good habits and kindness to a club. We lost John Walsh, a founding member, in 2003. He too, like Niall, was much loved and kind. Memory is important to us all. The club have wished that Niall be remembered in some way and belatedly a few words have been penned. Niall was a wonderful person, as you all are. Ni bheidh ar leitheidi ann aris. You will not see their like again. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam. At the right hand of God may his soul sit.

*I can see Niall and John laughing and having the craic. What would they say about us?
Tommy Brennan March 2019*

2019 at a glance

The season starts off in the pool. Pool training, water fitness, pool tests and trainees are essential for all divers.

Try A Dive

In October we held a promotion in Navan Shopping Centre to recruit candidates for our Try-A-Dive. Then in early Nov we had a very successful try-a-dive, with 6 potential recruits and as many more promises. Due to technical issues our regular slot at Kells Swimming pool was not available this winter so we moved to Navan Aura pool on Thursday & Saturday evenings.

Jan-Mar

Brian our training officer is working tirelessly with Our 5 new recruits. They are currently being put through their paces in Navan Swimming Pool on Saturday evenings after lectures in the Flathouse.

Anthony has been overseeing the snorkeling in Loughshinney, Clogher Head, Skerries and Collinstown every Sunday, weather permitting. We held the first session of open water fitness tests in Collinstown Lake on 10th Feb last and 14 members were put through, but if you missed out you can still avail of the opportunity to do so in the pool on Saturday evenings.

Easter

Every year we kick start the dive season at Easter weekend in Malin Beg. It's a great opportunity for trainees to do their one star and the rest of us to start the season with a few shallow dives. This year is no different & we have our usual spot in Franks Hostel booked, so if you are planning to go please let David know.

May bank holiday

Sunday Dive in Mullaghmore or John

June Bank Holiday

Connor and Anne-Marie are planning to return to the West. Here we hope to get fantastic dives in crystal clear water in Mullaghmore or Kilkee. The houses are ideal for families with child friendly facilities.

Dundalk Dive Rally

Dundalk will host a dive rally in June and we hope our members will be able to support them.

Club Barbeque

To be held in Ronan's residence on the last weekend in June

12-14th July Wexford Dive Rally

many of the members of our club intend to support the Wexford dive rally, this will enable us to get to know the area and plan for our club holiday

Club Holiday

Our summer Holiday will be in Hook, Wexford on the last week in July 27th Jul-3rd Aug staying in the Hookless Cottages. This promises to be a great week, there is plenty of scope for shallow dives for trainees and deep current filled dives for the more adventurous. Hook Dive club have offered us the use of their club facilities (showers, kitchens and Camping) as well as their expertise and company during our holiday.

Lanzarote

Plans are afoot for a trip to Lanzarote at the end of October. We have booked a variety of Wreck, scenic and night dives with Safari Diving....
Can't wait!



Upcoming Courses

1 Star

Coxswain

2 star

Leading Diver

Diver 1st responder

Diver Recovery

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

CFT RECOMMENDATIONS RE SAFETY. all members are to be reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their equipment is serviced at the appropriate intervals.

CFT RDO P Lambe issued a directive that all divers are responsible to ensure their equipment is serviced and maintained to manufacture standards and comply with CFT regulations

Self-Declaration/ Medical - Members to be reminded that even though their insurance is paid by the treasurer it is not valid until they submit the self-declaration and is only valid until the renewal of their medical is due.

CFT Insurance Payment. - CFT have a facility on COMS for members to pay their insurance. It is a very easy process and involves members filling out a self-declaration regarding their fitness to dive. All members should be encouraged to pay their insurance online.

CFT sent out a message in March as they are receiving a lot of enquiries from members who were not aware that their medical status was being investigated. The current system does not send notifications if you have a medical note so its up to each diver to check their medical status on go Membership to ensure it is active.

all non-regular divers must be dived up and have completed fitness tests and snorkel prior to diving weekends away

Calendar 2019

Jan-Mar – training in Navan Swimming Pool

10th Feb – Open water fitness tests in Collinstown Lake

Easter – Malin Beg

May & June bank holiday

Bar-B-Q last weekend in June

12-14th July Wexford Dive Rally

Club Holiday - in Hook, Wexford 27th Jul-3rd Aug

September bank holiday Mick Rodgers

Lanzarote - end of October

