

## ULSAC Trip Report Form

Please include on this form any details you think will help organise another trip to this area. Please include details of any problems encountered, or any particularly good things/places in the area, such as good or awful restaurants and pubs.

### Logistics

Date	31 <sup>st</sup> May 2008	Springs <input type="checkbox"/> Neaps <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue	Chattern Hill Lake, Ashford, Surrey	
Marshal	Jeremy Davey	
Overseer	Michelle Kim	
Number of People	20	
List of attendees with Diver Grade in brackets (e.g SD, DL etc)	Jeremy Davey (DL)	Louise Baynton (PADI OW)
	Victoria Lees (DL)	Benjamin Judkewitz (Novice)
	Nathan Long (AD)	Mohson Mir (OD)
	Michelle Kim (AD)	Jin Peng Ho (Novice)
	Anthony Chaddock (DL)	Richard Stevens (OD)
	Vasiliki Mavroeidi (OD)	Alyn Morgan (DL)
	Anna Solarska (CMAS)	Bonnie Webster (AD)
	Barbara Brayford (OD)	Stefan Leiber (Novice)
	Fiona Chadd (OD)	Gabriel Moshenska (Novice)
	Osama Qashoo (OD)	Ali Gaudion (SD)
Accommodation	N/A	
Address		
Telephone No.		
Cost per night/per tent/per person or as appropriate		
Notes		
Launch Site (inc. cost)	Inland site at Chattern Hill Lake, Challenge Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 01784 244358 <a href="http://www.the-dive-shop.co.uk/">http://www.the-dive-shop.co.uk/</a>	
Coastguard	N/A	
Nearest chamber	London Diving Chamber (St John's Wood - NW8 8NH - 020 7806 4000) London Hyperbaric Chamber (Whipps Cross – E11 1RG - 020 8539 1222)	
Air Shop	The Dive Shop, 12 Station Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2UP	
Van Hire (inc. notes, did you breakdown, AA cover, tow bar etc.)	H&H short wheel based transit (hire fee of £111 for the weekend) MPV from ULU – had a lot of trouble starting the MPV at the end of the diving day	

## Dives

### General Details

This was an inland drills day aiming to finish up some of the remaining OD and SD drills from Easter Training. In attendance were 12 trainees, 7 instructors and a Sports Diver.

### The Site

Situated not far off Junction 13 of the M25, this site was only a 20-25 minute journey from Chiswick. It is in very nice surroundings and had a very relaxed atmosphere to it. I think this might have been to us being the only group there however the owners limit the number of divers so can imagine it would remain much quieter than nearby Wraysbury. Entry is based on the number of people and vehicles that go (we paid £4 per person based on 20 people distributed between 4 vehicles). The owners will do shuttle runs for air back to their shop about a mile away (£3 per 12 litre cylinder).

There are a number of training platforms in the site, a small aeroplane and a truck. The training platforms are about a metre off the bottom in about 7 metres of depth. The truck is in a similar depth whilst the aeroplane is in about 14 metres of water. However the visibility was shocking (20cm in places) especially deeper than around 5 metres. Apparently it gets better when the site is used more i.e. from weekend to weekend however it was still pretty bad in the afternoon. The white buoys near the car park end mark the platforms, the pink buoy at the far end marks another training platform, the white and yellow buoys mark the aeroplane and the other buoy marks the truck.

There is a small café van onsite serving quite reasonably priced hot drinks, burgers and bacon sandwiches. At present there is a female and male portaloos onsite however the owners are awaiting planning permission to build a standing unit with a compressor, shop, café and changing facilities.

At the dive site there is no sign of any safety or rescue equipment i.e. there is no O2, first aid, boat cover or even a permanent telephone. Obviously ULSAC took our own O2 kits, throw ropes and first aid kit but the lack of rescue/safety facilities should be mentioned.

### Diving

The drills undertaken were:

- Alternate Source Ascents (Sports Diver)
- Compass navigation
- DSMB deployment
- CBL (Sports and Ocean Diver)
- Surface rescue scenarios including BLS
- Sports Diver and Ocean Diver assessments

### Outcome

The majority of drills were completed successfully including all of the assessment dives undertaken. This led to the qualification of Jin Peng Ho, Benjamin Judkewitz and Gabriel Moshenska as Ocean Divers and Louise Baynton and Vasiliki Mavroeidi as Sports Divers. The final trip cost for Trainees was £31.15 and payment was settled up on the day (mainly in cash).

### Other things of note

The MPV had real trouble starting at the end of the day but eventually got it running and managed to get back to ULU with it. Also we didn't manage to fill all of the cylinders since the air shop takes quite a long time to fill them. It is pretty easy to find the site but worth following the directions on the website.