First of all a quick recap of 2016.

Not many sea dives done and all on previously visited location. Times, boats and weather just didn’t come together. When we did get in visibility was a bit pants. Therefore no meaningful reports. Plenty of visits to Wraysbury & Vobster Quay.

We did one day at Stoney cove

Site: Stoney!

Vessel: Car

Depth: 35m dive 1 & 30 for dive 2

Conditions: Quiet mid-week. Very sunny water temp 10C.

Visibility: Excellent especially at depth 5-10m in shallows

Special kit: Twinsets, + deco stage, wet suit for temp test

Details: Dive 1 surface swim to Hydrobox buoy. Direct descent (telephone cable so very smooth and offers no friction). Bubble & kit check during drop. Inspected hydrobox, assessed suit insulation and then followed road way up to 22m shelf. Checked out the Viscount with multi-level ascent to 7m shelf. Practiced gas drills & buoyancy swim through of buildings and had a good look at a large pike. 55min dive time.

 Dive 2: Decsent to 22m ledge & Stane garth, staged cylinders, partial decent of drop off and return to wreck to explore it and pick up deco gas. After a tour of the wreck we carried out a free acsent and deployed DSMB’s from mid-water for safety stop, gas switching drills and navigation to exit point. 50min dive time.

2017

Site: Wraysbury

Depth: 8m

Conditions: early February. Lake frozen over, ice near entry broken open to dive. Chuffin’ cold.

Visibility: 4m max, not actually as clear as I have had in the winter before. Increased visibility out under the frozen areas.

Details: Very little see as most fish still sheltering. Didn’t feel too cold due to going numb as soon as you got in…… interesting to try out the conditions. Probably a little colder than previous dive in early January.

Site: Vobster

Depth: 25.5m

Conditions: Mid-March. Overcast and cool day.

Visibility: Not great 2-3m much of the time. I think due to surface run off.

Details: Advanced Open Water training & depth progression. Everyone in drysuits! Dived the Jacquin 2 & pit before ascent to road way & safety stop. Second dive was over crushing works and aircraft wreck for navigation practice.

Site: Far Mulberry

Vessel: Mulberry Divers RIB, Selsey

Depth: 10.5m

Conditions: 2nd of April 11:45 ropes off, nice & sunny but cool wind

Visibility: 1m underwater

Divers: Andy, Ashley, Bob & Giles. All O/C.

Special kit: None.

Details: Very calm, minor swell. A lot of plankton in the water 2m vis on the line but dropped off on the site. Water temp 12C-9C. No Lumpsuckers possibly already too warm for them already. Just about made out a few large Wrasse through the murk but couldn’t sea anything else bar the anemones & dead men’s fingers on the structure.

 Completed a circuit of the structure and then swam up & donw the inshore side away from the current. 40m dive time.

 Ascent and a safety stop on the buoy chain, at which point we got covered in krill. Smelled nice on the drive home…..