



This month **SCOTTISH DIVER** spoke to Mark Lowery from wet suits supremo Lomo Watersports. Although he admits to being relatively new to the diving fraternity - he is clearly hooked, as his answers below reveal ...



■ **WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO DIVE?**

● I learned through joining the Kelvin branch of ScotSAC as I'd always wanted to dive and was already doing other watersports like waterskiing. My first open water dive was on holiday in Marbella in surprisingly cold water.

■ **WHAT TYPE OF DIVER ARE YOU?**

● I'm mainly a club diver doing regular dives on the usual Scottish sites. Our club did go out to Mallorca last year though ... clear water ... shortie wetsuit ... ahhh bliss! It did make me question what exactly it was that I got out of Scottish diving, then figured I must just be as mad as the rest of ScotSAC!

■ **WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF KIT?**

● My prescription dive mask; I'm blind as a bat and nicknamed 'Magoo' by my friends. No more screwing up my eyes - or worse, getting my lenses washed out when doing mask clearing. After that I love my split fins and the smooth action you get with them.

■ **DIVE BUDDY - WHO DO YOU ENJOY DIVING WITH MOST?**

● I like diving with club members that I know and can predict. Holiday diving with unknown quantities can be a bit hairy. There's a big difference between club divers who are out every other weekend and some guy with a padi card who hasn't dived since his honeymoon two years ago.

■ **FAVOURITE DIVE SITE?**

● The caves around Santa Ponsa, Mallorca. Too long to see the exit at the other end, and too small to easily turn around and retreat. It scared the life out of me but I got a real buzz from it. One of those, 'if it goes wrong now we're in deep trouble' moments. How much air have I got? And where's my pony when I need it?"

■ **BEST COUNTRY VISITED?**

● I haven't done a whole lot of foreign diving, but so far it's Mallorca.

■ **WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO GO DIVING?**

● When its 7am, -5°C and I'm scraping the car, I do wonder; but when you get under water it's great and there's always the thought of - what will I see today?. I always know I'll come home feeling excited and full of life after diving.

■ **DREAM DIVE BUDDY**

● Definitely Angelina Jolie in her silver wetsuit from Tomb Raider, but she'd need to pick me up in her customised Land Rover wearing her black hot pants... are we still talking about diving?

■ **DREAM DIVE DESTINATION**

● I absolutely must make it out to the Red Sea this year. I feel like I'm the only person on earth who hasn't been yet!

■ **BEST DIVE BOOK EVER READ?**

● A shocking admission, but I've never read any dive books other than technical theory ones, but by the time I've read every dive magazine in the shop, every month, I feel as if I've read everything ever written about diving.

■ **WHAT BUGS YOU MOST ABOUT DIVING?**

● I live in a flat and it takes me almost as long to carry all my kit up and down the stairs as it does to go out for the day. My next piece of dive kit has to be a house with a garage (store room).

■ **HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE DIVING TO NON-DIVERS**

● Weird and a bit scary at first. Then weird and not so scary, then weird and really enjoyable. It's always a bit weird though - every single time! I guess that's why I enjoy it! The day it stops being a little weird is the day to give it up.

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