



going overboard

However there are still members out there with a conservative streak. Mostly, though not exclusively, long standing members who have worked hard for their branches and ScotSAC, many continue to do so. They often don't see the need to change things, "It's aye been" as they say in the Borders. Branches too sometimes don't see the need for change and think that 'The Board' are too detached and just like change for the sake of it. Well 'The Board' are also members of Branches (surprise, surprise) and they do go diving and they do train people. So they are not so detached from what we all do to promote safe diving.

I think it might help members to understand some of the recent changes if they were aware of the background. Tragically there was a fatality a few years ago which led to a Fatal Accident Inquiry being held in Oban. The Sheriff issued his determination late last year and in it there were 18

recommendations mainly to do with try-dives but some covered training dives as well.

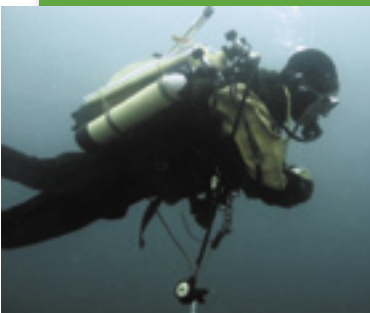
We should welcome this opportunity to have our practices examined by someone who can look objectively and apply common sense to what we treat as normal because we have always done it that way. Some of the recommendations have been accepted as made, some have been modified to make them workable. However it would be foolish to say the least to ignore them. Yes we know it will make life a little harder but we must also remember the Sheriff's job is to try to prevent another fatality by looking at what went wrong and recommending measures to avoid it happening in the future. I'm sure you will agree anything that adds to the safety of divers and helps prevent accidents is worth a little extra effort.

Jack Morrison
EDITOR

FOR A CONSERVATIVE organisation we have, over the last few years, taken radical decisions and made radical changes. By the time you read this we will have moved into a new office in Edinburgh with a new administrator Kate Jenkins - welcome to ScotSAC Kate. And there is more in the pipeline with the National Diving Council (NDC) hard at work on a review of the training.

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