



The Wrecks of the Banc du Cardonnet

A Southsea Sub-Aqua Club diving expedition to learn more about just some of the many wrecks lost during the Allied Forces Normandy Campaign in June 1944.

Project Plan

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Diving Officer and Project Leader

1. INTRODUCTION

Based in Portsmouth, England, the home of the Royal Navy, the members of Southsea Sub-Aqua Club (SSAC) have been exploring the wrecks of the south coast and beyond since 1954. Indeed it was SSAC members that discovered the wreck of the historic Tudor warship 'Mary Rose' which was later raised from the Solent and, after years of careful conservation is now located in a world class museum in the historic Dockyard.

In recent years members from SSAC have undertaken a number of award winning diving projects associated with wrecks of Operation Neptune, the Naval assault phase of Operation Overlord, and the largest ever maritime invasion. Following two years of meticulous planning Portsmouth and other harbours and towns along the south coast of England prepared for the invasion fleet of 7,000 ships, vessels and craft. Hundreds of thousands of Allied troops and their equipment finally set sail on 5th June to cross the English Channel and in the early hours of D Day on the 6th June 1944, the first soldiers finally landed on the French beaches code named Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword. So began one of the most daring and ambitious campaigns of WW2 which ultimately led to the liberation of France and the end of WW2.

Following our successful projects, Tanks and Bulldozers, Neptune Wrecks, Kedge Hook and Mulberry 70, and a successful joint expedition to dive wrecks in Normandy with members of the French Federation group 'Scuba Ninjas' in September 2014, members of SSAC are planning to return to Normandy to discover more about the WW2 wrecks of Operation Neptune.

Using the skills we have developed we hope to record and photograph the wrecks of the Banc du Cardonnet located at the western end of the Baie de Seine on the approaches to Utah beach. We also plan to create where practicable photogrammetry or 3D models of the wrecks which can be used to inform identification and improve the wider knowledge, understanding and appreciation of these wrecks as part of our shared cultural heritage. In recording and documenting

the condition of these wrecks we will also complete this record with details of the marine life present on these artificial reefs.

Building on data gathered by side scan sonar surveys by the US and UKHO and working closely with subject matter expert Chris Howlett, our project centres on the wrecks of two US Tank Landing Craft (LCT(5) 458 and LCT(6) 593) which were lost near the Banc du Cardonnet and the armoured fighting vehicles that were part of their cargo. In addition we would hope to dive a number of wrecks of barges and armoured vehicles in the area to assist in their identification.

The members of SSAC are extremely aware of the ultimate sacrifice made by many in the Normandy campaign and throughout WW2. We are always respectful of the fact that many of these wrecks are the last resting place of brave soldiers and sailors from the Allied forces. Coming from a naval city we are always sensitive to the fact that we are visiting a special place, one that few people are able to visit. We take the greatest care not to disturb or interfere with any wreck or artefacts. Indeed many of the project team have either served in or with the British Armed Forces and have family members who also have served.

2. THE WRECK SITES

US LCT(5) 458

US LCT(5) 458 was built by the New York Shipbuilding Corp in 1942. She was constructed of steel and had a displacement of 286 tonnes and had a length of 35.8m and beam of 9.8m. LCT (5) 458 had 3 Grey marine diesel engines which delivered 675 horsepower to each of her 3 shafts. Her maximum speed was 10 knots. She was armed with a 20mm Anti-Aircraft gun and 2 0.5 calibre machine guns. LCT(5) 458 had a complement of 13 and embarked at Dartmouth as part of the US 'U' force.



Figure 1 US LCT Mark 5 off the English coast 1944

LCT (5) 458 sank on 7th June 1944 after hitting a mine while running into the beach. She was carrying 4 x M-7 Priests and supporting vehicles of B Battery, 29th Field Artillery. All vehicles and many men were lost. Three of the M-7s were recorded by UKHO multi-beam survey. The remaining M-7 Priest is unrecorded as a target but is likely to be one of the anomalies nearby.

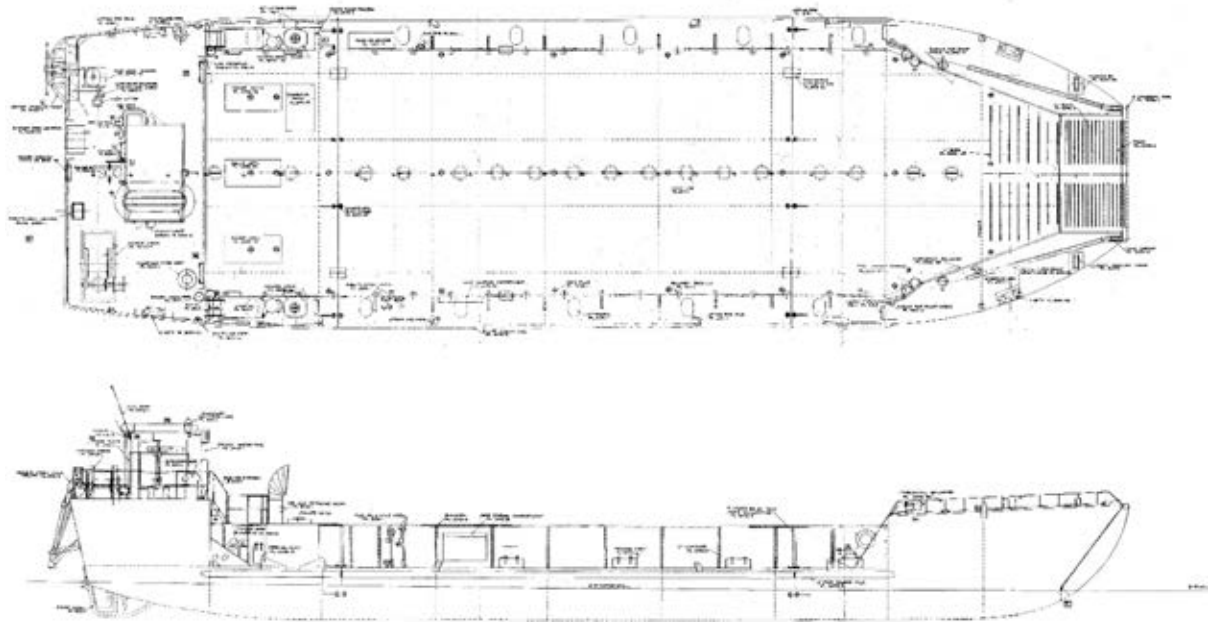


Figure 2 The general layout of a US LCT Mark 5

The loading documentation for LCT 458 indicates 4 M-7s two with an M-10 trailer, 2 2.5 ton trucks with an M-10 trailer each, 3 Jeeps and 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ton weapons carriers. Photos taken by the divers show 3 M-7s and several sets of wheels and possibly engine blocks.

One of the aims of the project will be to confirm that the LCT wreckage is from a Mk 5 and that the unrecorded object is the 4th M-7. Also we hope to determine the other debris remains by examining the wheels.

US LCT (6) 593

LCT (6) 593 was built by Pidgeon-Thomas Iron Co in Memphis. She was constructed of steel and had a displacement of 160 tonnes. Her propulsion was from 3 Grey Marine Diesel engines delivering 225 shp to each of her 3 shafts. Her length was 36.7m and she had a beam of 9.8m. LCT (6) 593 was armed with two 20mm Anti-Aircraft guns and four .50 calibre machine guns. Her construction was very different to the Mark 5 LCT in that the loading was a roll-on: roll-off style with doors at both bow and stern of the vessel.

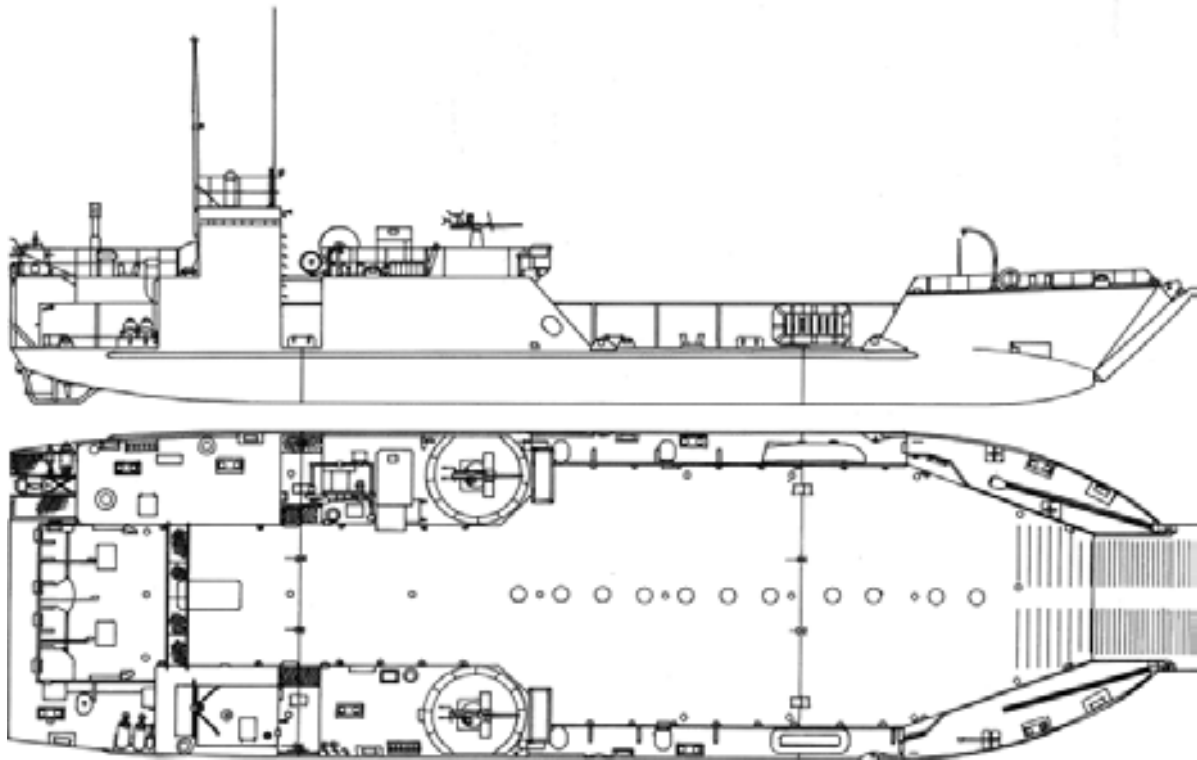


Figure 3 the general layout of a US LCT Mark 6

Shortly before dawn on 6th June 1944 eight US Navy LCTs carrying the 70th Battalion's DD tanks approached Utah beach. As LCT (6) 593, with four of A Company's DD Sherman tanks aboard, passed over the shallow Banc du Cardonnet it detonated an enormous German mine. LCT (6) 593 was instantly broken in two and power from the massive explosion propelled her men, vehicles and equipment into the air. Many lives were lost.

Our task under this project will be to confirm the remaining parts of the wreck and associated Sherman DD tanks plus equipment that were dispersed as a result of the enormous explosion. As the wreck was broken into at least two parts this may be a difficult exercise.

Again we will hope to create 3D images of the wreck and her cargo as well as record marine life present.

Other wrecks of the Banc du Cardonnet.

Time and weather permitting we will also attempt to dive and record several other unidentified wrecks in the vicinity of the Banc du Cardonnet including those believed to be of two LBVs (Landing Barge Vehicle), Sherman DD tanks.

A full list of potential wreck targets for investigation is at Annex A.

3. PERMISSION AND RECORDING THE WRECKS

We have consulted with the French Cultural authorities in order to secure permission to dive and document the wreck sites and share the results of our investigations. Our sincere thanks go to Mme Celcile Sauvage of the Département des Recherches Archéologiques Subaquatiques et Sous-Marines (French: Submarine and Undersea Archeologic Research Department) (DRASSM) for her patience, understanding and support of our project in recent months. With her guidance we have applied for permission to record and document the site. In the event that we are not able to secure this permission it may be possible to dive the wrecks but we will not be able to document our findings.

A condition of the permission is that all divers register with the Institut National de Plongée Professionnelle as Level 1B commercial divers. This requires CMAS 3*** BS EN 14153-3 equivalence as a minimum and certification by a hyperbaric doctor of fitness to dive. We are grateful for the help and assistance from our French team member Alain Demaire in submitting our applications.

Using unobtrusive methods such as photography and video we hope to record the wrecks in detail so as to aid identification and to establish a baseline for their condition. In addition, using a technique known as photogrammetry, we hope to create 3D images which can be used to share the knowledge and experience of visiting the wreck using Virtual Reality technology. Even without this technology anyone with access to the internet using Google Chrome will be able to view the image from all angles.

We also plan to record the marine life present and to photograph in more detail any artefacts that may be seen, particularly where these assist in the identification of the wreck.

This data and the images created will then be compared with historical records with the aim of adding to the public record regarding the loss of these vessels, vehicles and men in the Battle for Normandy June 1944.

4. EXPEDITION PLAN AND LOGISTICS

Travelling from Portsmouth via ferry on the morning of 2nd June, we plan to arrive at Grandcamp-Maisy in the afternoon of 2nd June. We will bring our well-equipped boat 'Southsea Explorer' as well as all our diving equipment and portable air compressor.



Figure 4 The harbour and marina at Grandcamp-Maisy

We will be staying at a lovely house on the eastern side of the fishing harbour at Grandcamp-Maisy and will launch and operate our boat from the marina in the harbour just a short distance from the house. The harbour is tidal and access is restricted to approx. 2 hours either side of high water. This has been taken into account when planning the diving.



Figure 5 The house where we will be staying at Grandcamp-Maisy, overlooks the sea.

Grandcamp-Maisy has all we need in terms of shops, goods and services and will provide an excellent base to explore the area where there are many points of interest particularly those connected with D Day and the Battle of Normandy. Nestling on the coast between the landing beaches of Utah and Omaha we will have the opportunity to visit some of the military cemeteries and museums and will endeavour to find the headstones of some of the men lost in order that we can pay our respects.

5. DIVE MANAGEMENT AND PROGRAMME

The dates selected are neap tides and this will give long dive times and good slack waters adding to the safety of the project.

The SHOM chart for the area is number 7422. Tidal predictions are calculated with UKHO 'Total Tide' software. High and Low water calculations based on Rade de la Capelle. The tidal predictions for area SN160X and SN 160W for the days of the project are as follows; (note: All times are expressed as local time UTC +2).

03/06/2017	Rade de la Capelle			SN160X				SN160W		
LW	01:19	2.6 m	slack	0220-0340	80 mins		slack	0140-0300	80 mins	
HW	07:02	5.9 m	slack	0640-0940	180 mins		slack	0640-0840	120 mins	
LW	13:52	2.4 m	slack	1500-1630	90 mins		slack	1420-1550	90 mins	
HW	19:47	6.0 m	slack	1930-2230	180 mins		slack	1920-2130	130 mins	
04/06/2017										
LW	02:30	2.6 m	slack	0320-0450	90 mins		slack	0240-0410	90 mins	
HW	08:03	6.0 m	slack	0740-1100	200 mins		slack	0740-1000	140 mins	
LW	14:59	2.3 m	slack	1600-1730	90 mins		slack	1520-1650	90 mins	
HW	20:39	6.1 m	slack	2030-2330	180 mins		slack	2020-2230	130 mins	
05/06/2017										
LW	03:33	2.4 m	slack	0430-0550	80 mins		slack	0350-0510	80 mins	
HW	08:56	6.1 m	slack	0850-1140	170 mins		slack	0850-1040	110 mins	
LW	15:57	2.1 m	slack	1700-1820	80 mins		slack	1620-1740	80 mins	
HW	21:26	6.3 m	slack	2130-0010*	160 mins		slack	2130-2310	100 mins	
06/06/2017										
LW	04:27	2.1 m	slack	0530-0640	70 mins		slack	0450-0600	70 mins	
HW	09:43	6.3 m	slack	0950-1230	160 mins		slack	0950-1130	100 mins	
LW	16:48	2.0 m	slack	1800-1900	60 mins		slack	1720-1830	70 mins	
HW	22:09	6.5 m	slack	2220-0050*	150 mins		slack	2220-2359	100 mins	
07/06/2017										
LW	05:14	2.0 m	slack	0620-0720	60 mins		slack	0540-0640	60 mins	
HW	10:27	6.4 m	slack	1050-1310	140 mins		slack	1040-1210	90 mins	
LW	17:32	1.9 m	slack	1850-1940	50 mins		slack	1800-1905	65 mins	
HW	22:48	6.6 m	slack	2310-0130*	140 mins		slack	2300-0030*	90 mins	
08/06/2017										
LW	05:56	1.8 m	slack	0710-0800	50 mins		slack	0620-0720	60 mins	
HW	11:06	6.6 m	slack	1130-1350	140 mins		slack	1130-1250	80 mins	
LW	18:12	1.8 m	slack	1930-2020	50 mins		slack	1840-1940	60 mins	
HW	23:23	6.8 m	slack	1150-0200*	130 mins		slack	2350-0110*	80 mins	
09/06/2017										
LW	06:34	1.7 m	slack	0750-0830	40 mins		slack	0700-0800	60 mins	
HW	11:42	6.7 m	slack	1210-1420	130 mins		slack	1210-1330	80 mins	
LW	18:49	1.8 m	slack	2010-2050	40 mins		slack	1920-2010	50 mins	

Table 1 Tidal data and slack water times – local time.

The highlighted times in table 1 above represent those tides which are suitable for diving the sites on and around the Banc du Cardonnet. The long slack water periods of up to 3 hours, particularly on the first tide of the day provides an excellent

opportunity to gather information and photographs. Diving may also be conducted in waves to ensure the sites are not overcrowded. It may be possible to visit more than one site which will be useful when diving smaller sites such as vehicles. Predicted dive times as follows:-

Date June 2017	Slack 1	Slack 2	Slack 3	Sunrise	Sunset
Saturday 03/06/17	06.40 – 09.40	15.00 – 16.30	19.30 – 22.30	06.01	22.00
Sunday 04/06/17	07.40 – 11.00	15.00 – 16.30		06.01	22.02
Monday 05/06/17	08.50 – 11.40	16.00 – 17.30		06.00	22.02
Tuesday 06/06/17	09.50 – 12.30	18.00 – 19.00		06.00	22.03
Wednesday 07/06/17	10.50 – 13.10	18.50 – 19.40		05.59	22.03
Thursday 08/06/17	07.10 – 08.00	11.30 – 13.50		05.59	22.04

Table 2 Slack water times for diving the wrecks of the Banc du Cardonnet – local time.

It is probable that some dives may be too early/late in the day (denoted in red) depending on weather conditions and to coincide with operation times of the marina lock system. Because of the logistics of getting the boat back into the Marina some days we may be restricted to one dive each day.

The long slack water periods of up to 3 hours, particularly on the first tide of the day provides an excellent opportunity to gather information and photographs. On these days the slack water times will be long so some of the dive times will be longer, the maximum dive time will be no more than 60 minutes per buddy pair. Diving may also be conducted in waves to ensure the sites are not overcrowded. It may be possible to visit more than one site which will be useful when diving smaller sites such as vehicles.

It is therefore proposed to plan a series of 12 dives to conduct the investigation during the period 3rd June to 8th June 2017.

We will start to embark at Grandcamp-Maisy Marina 60 minutes before dive time with the view to boat being on site 30 minutes before dive time. The initial dive on 3rd will depart earlier to allow sufficient time to locate the wrecks and deploy shot lines.

Search Techniques

Initial location of the dive sites will be made by using the SHOM/UKHO position data. Once the wreck or a target has been found using the echo sounder a shot line will be used as a point of reference around which to conduct the detailed search of the sea bed using our boat Southsea Explorer's sonar side scan and 'down-vision equipment'. The majority of wrecks stand 1-2m proud of the seabed.

Once the wreck has been marked by a buoy this will be used as the descent reference point for the divers who will then undertake searches on the sea bed surrounding the wreck and photograph/document what they find.

Project Cardonnet - Participants and roles

The Cardonnet project will be led by Martin Davies who will be supported by Alain Demaire in the management of diving operations. All of the diving team have applied for Level 1B certification by the Institut National de Plongée Professionnelle ([INPP](#)) in order to meet the criteria for permission to document the wrecks. The participants, qualifications and roles of the project team are set out in the table below; (note 1B level certification pending)

Name	Qualifications	French equivalent	Role
Martin Davies A182103	HSE Scuba Diver BSAC Advanced diver Assistant Open Water Instructor Diver Coxswain/Boat handler O2 Administration First Aid for Divers DSC VHF Radio operator Technical Diver - Open Circuit Mixed Gas Diver (Nx/He) Accelerated Decompression Procedures (80%) Advanced Nitrox Diver Gas Blender O2/N2/He Nautical Archaeology Society Introduction/Part 1 RYA level 2 Powerboat RYA International Certificate of Competence RYA Day Skipper Compressor Operator/Instructor Automated External Defibrillator AED	INPP Level 1B CMAS 3* diver BS EN 14153-3 ISO 24801-3	Project Leader Diving Officer for SSAC Photographer
Alain Demaire A7355937	MF2 and Instructeur Régional CMAS 3*** Instructor	INPP Level 1B MF2 and Instructeur Régional CMAS 3*** Instructor	Diving Operations manager Survey Diver.
Alison Bessell A474222	HSE Part IV BSc Hons Marine Biology Dive Leader O2 Administration First Aid for Divers	INPP Level 1B CMAS 2* diver BS EN 14153-3	Survey Diver Marine Biologist

	DSC VHF/GMDSS radio operator Nautical Archaeology Society Introduction/Part 1 RYA Level 2 Powerboat Compressor Operator	ISO 24801-3	
Doug Carter A754692	BSAC Advanced diver Nautical Archaeology Society Introduction/Part 1 VHF/DSC radio operator Compressor Operator	INPP Level 1B CMAS 3* diver BS EN 14153-3 ISO 24801-3	Survey Diver
Jim Fuller A723932	BSAC Advanced diver BSAC Open Water Instructor VHF Radio Operator Nautical Archaeology Society Introduction/Part 1 O2 Administration First Aid for Divers Automated External Defibrillator AED RYA Power boat Level 2 Compressor Operator/Instructor	INPP Level 1B CMAS 3* diver CMAS 2* Instructor BS EN 14153-3 ISO 24801-3	Survey Diver
Alison Mayor A742727	BSAC Advanced diver Assistant Open Water Instructor Technical Diver - Open Circuit Mixed Gas Diver (Nx/He) Accelerated Decompression Procedures (80%) Advanced Nitrox Diver Gas Blender O2/N2/He Compressor Operator Practical Rescue Management First Aid for Divers Oxygen Administration Chart work and Position Fixing RYA Powerboat Level 2 Underwater photographer Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Nautical Archaeology Society Intro, Part 1&2 Fellow of the Nautical Archaeology Society SeaSearch Observer	INPP Level 1B CMAS 3* diver BS EN 14153-3 ISO 24801-3	Surveyor Diver Photographer Report writer
Tom Templeton	BSAC Advanced diver BSAC Open Water Instructor Boat Handling	INPP Level 1B CMAS 3* diver	Survey Diver Photographer

A743845	Diver Coxswain Award O2 Administration VHF Radio Certificate RYA Powerboat Level 2 Mixed Gas Blender Instructor Explorer Mixed Gas Diver Instructor (60m) Compressor Operator/Instructor	CMAS 2* Instructor BS EN 14153-3 ISO 24801-3	
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Table 3 Project participants, qualification and roles

All divers will be certified by a hyperbaric doctor as fit to dive in accordance with French diving regulations and to qualify for INPP certification.

In addition we will be supported by Jenny Watkins (A416984 - BSAC Advanced Diver and OWI), Robert Watkins (A615525 BSAC Advanced Diver and OWI) and Iain Jones (A830860 BSAC Sports Diver/PADI Rescue Diver) in respect of logistics and also Chris Howlett (BSAC Snorkel Diver) as historian and D Day subject matter expert.

All participants are current members of the British Sub-Aqua Club and as such hold Third Party Liability insurance ([Third Party Liability Insurance Policy](#)) of £10,000,000.

Dive Management

All diving operations will be conducted in accordance with BSAC 'Safe Diving Practices' and French Federation regulations and will be overseen by Southsea Sub-Aqua Clubs Diving Officer Martin Davies or his nominated deputy and Diving Manager Alain Demaire.

A full risk assessment and emergency management plan has been produced and briefed to the expedition team. A copy of the Project Cardonnet risk assessment and Emergency Plan can be found at Annex B

It is essential to work with the boat coxswains, who have ultimate responsibility for the boat and divers when they are underwater and will ensure the safe and successful outcome of each days diving. All divers and crew will receive a daily brief on the safety features of the boat and its equipment as well as a more general diving brief relating to the diving activities on the day such as photographic exercises and hazards/risks to be aware of as referenced in the risk management plan. There will be a Coxswain and crew member present on the boat at all times. All Diver Coxswains will hold RYA International Certificate of Competence licenses. ([ICC License](#)) to operate in foreign waters. A courtesy flag will be flown from Southsea Explorer.

Diving pairs will be established based on experience, capability, dive plans and the specific objectives of the dives. Initially experienced divers with search skills will be needed to find the wreck and other points of interest. After the wrecks have been located and marked it will then be a matter of recording what is seen underwater. Following which the photographic, video and marine life exercises can take place.

Matching these tasks to divers/buddy pairs' experience, skills and availability will need to be carefully managed.

All divers will carry DSMBs and have an Alternative Air Source and other safety equipment (e.g. knives/cutters/torches/strobes). Buddy checks will be conducted before each dive. There will be a diver log kept by the appointed Dive Manager recording the details of each divers air in/or, depth, time and duration. The Dive Manager will also operate a diver 'count' system to ensure that all divers are accounted for at the end of each dive.

The relatively shallow depth means that there are no special requirements for long decompression/trapezes or staged decompression and there are no hazards such as overhead environments to consider as none of the structures are intact anymore. This should mean that the diving routines can be relatively simple although there is a possible task loading issue, which with training and practice can be minimised.

All safety equipment (O2 and First Aid kit, Flares) will be checked before each dive and O2 administrators/first aiders will be identified as a part of the briefings.

Position of wrecks

The wrecks are positioned around 5 nautical miles to the north Grandcamp-Maisy, a high proportion are on the Banc du Cardonnet which is a raised embankment area and is much shallower than the surrounding area. The RIB (Southsea Explorer) will journey out to the site for each dive, the transit time is estimated between 20 - 30 minutes depending on sea state and weather conditions.

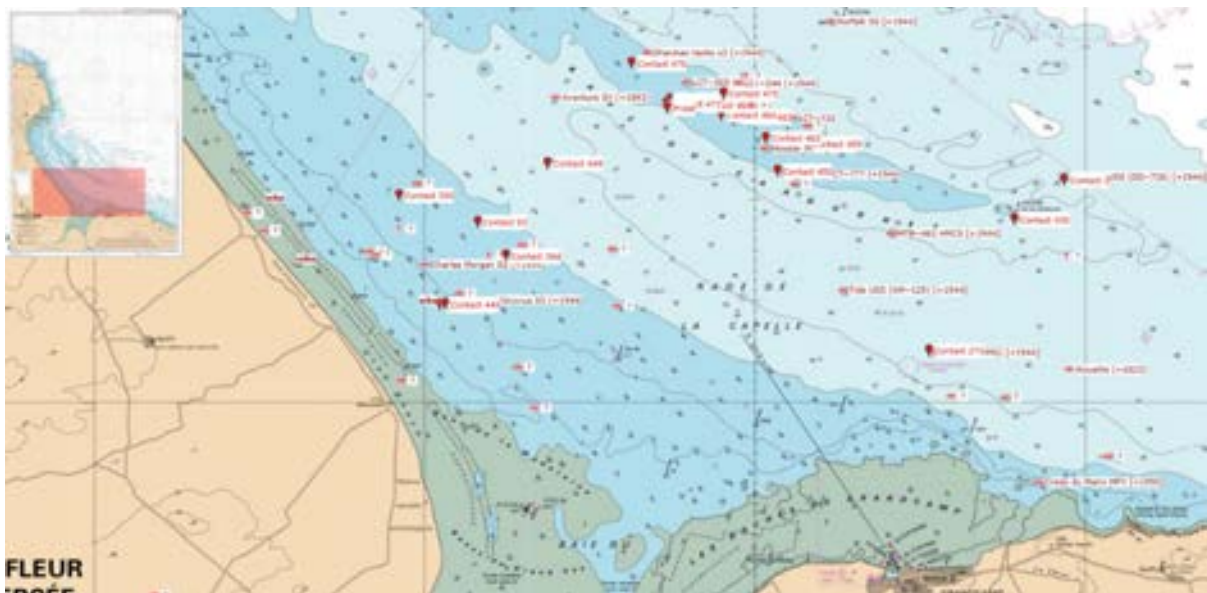


Figure 6 Extract of SHM chart indicating position of the potential dive sites.

Dive Plans

The majority of the sites are less than 20m and so air (21% Oxygen) diving would be perfectly acceptable for the first dive, however on the second dive or if deeper the benefits of Nitrox would be clear.

The depth of the wreck sites is such that there is benefit from the use of Nitrox by all divers who are qualified to do so because of the multiple dives over successive days. The use of Nitrox 32% or 36% will reduce the possibility of De-Compression Illness (DCI) and extend the bottom time to the point where when multiple dives are taking place over several days they can be safely undertaken without the need for decompression.

Two indicative dive plans have been produced to reflect a typical diving day as a part of the project exercise – one for Air and one Nitrox 36% (using BSAC 88 and Nitrox tables). These plans can be found at Annex C to this project plan.

6. SHARING OUR FINDINGS - REPORTING AND OUTREACH

The primary reason for our project is the sharing of our findings with others and raising awareness of the heroic sacrifice made by Allied forces in seeking to liberate France. The desire to document and share the information means that permission is required from the French authorities (DRASSM) and this project plan has been developed as part of the approval process.

As a result of the project we aim to complete a detailed report and also 3D (photogrammetry) models that will be available to the public via the World Wide Web. The report will also be shared with DRASSM, the Nautical Archaeology Society (nauticalarchaeologysociety.org), the D Day Museum in Portsmouth ([D Day Museum](http://D-Day-Museum.org)) and the British Sub-Aqua Club ([BSAC](http://BSAC.org)).

Anyone with access to Google Chrome will be able to view the 3D images of wrecks in a fully interactive way.

The project report will include details of;

- the history of the wrecks and the assault by US forces on UTAH beach;
- the details of the wrecks as we observed when diving
- our conclusions as to the identity of the wrecks
- details of the marine environment.
- Interactive 3D photogrammetry images of the wrecks and their cargo/artefacts.

We also hope to produce articles for special interest publications such as the International Journal of Nautical Archaeology ([ijna](http://ijna.org)).

It is also our intention to compile a document that will provide guidance to other BSAC branches about the rules and practicalities of diving in France. This information can be hosted by BSAC HQ on the website to provide a reference guide that will help branches understand the different rules that apply to diving in France and in particular the need to obtain permission from French authorities if a Branch wishes to document and research wrecks or dive in marine conservation areas.

7. FINANCE AND BUDGET

Our project is not a commercial enterprise and our divers are volunteers who are diving on a recreational basis. Whilst grant funding may be applied for to assist with the cost of completion of the project there is no assumption that this will be received and all divers are content to fund their share of the costs on an equal basis.

The estimated total cost of the project is included at Annex D.

8. CONCLUSION

The team from SSAC have a strong interest in the WW2 Normandy Campaign and in particular understanding the underwater cultural heritage which connects them with the reality of this momentous endeavour. An endeavour which ultimately contributed to the liberation of France and the end of the Second World War.

Building on our successful projects in UK waters we are keen to continue on this natural journey by investigating and documenting the wrecks of the Baie de Seine in order to share the story of the wrecks with the wider community.

We always hold in our minds the sacrifice that many made in the name of freedom and we will endeavour to ensure their place in history is not forgotten. It is our duty and honour to do so.

We wish to sincerely thank Mme Cecile Sauvage (DRASSM) for her advice and support over the last few months in understanding the process and criteria required to obtain permission to conduct this project.

Annex A

Project Cardonnet will investigate a number of wrecks associated with the WW2 Normandy Campaign which are believed to be associated with the invasion of UTAH beach. The wrecks are located in the western end of the Baie de Seine in the vicinity of the Banc du Cardonnet. These wrecks are believed to be the wrecks of US Tank Landing Craft LCT(5) 458 and LCT(6) 593 and their associated cargos of armoured fighting vehicles, predominantly Sherman DD tanks and Priests.

Target	Latitude/Longitude WGS84	Depth	Comment	Dimensions	Action
Contact 464	49° 27.849000' N 1° 5.504340' W	10m	Buried wreck remains. Probably the remains of either LCT(5) 458 or LCT(6) 593.	44m	Investigate whether an LCT(5) or (6).
Contact 468	49° 27.941760' N 1° 5.886300' W	10m	Buried wreck remains. Probably the remains of either LCT(5) 458 or LCT(6) 593.	34x11x0.61m	Investigate whether an LCT(5) or (6).
Contact 470	49° 27.921660' N 1° 6.329280' W 49° 28.000000' N 1° 6.300000' W	12m	3x M7 Priests and vehicle remains. Several vehicle wheels lie around the Priests. Vehicles have disintegrated leaving axles and engine blocks only. Vehicles were: 4x M-10 ammo trailers, 2x 2.5 ton trucks, 2x 3/4 ton weapons carrier and 3x Jeep. Another, unidentified target (second position) lies 83m north east and is probably the 4 th M-7 from the loss of LCT(5) 458 that detonated a mine and sank on its approach to the beach.	14x5m	Investigate M-7s and classify wheels that remain.
Contact 470	49° 27.998940' N 1° 6.307860' W	10.8	Tank – part of contact 470 above.	5x1.2x3m	Investigate
Contact 471	49° 27.964320' N 1° 6.343740' W	11m	Tank – part of contact 470 above.	7x1.5x3m	Investigate

Contact 475	49° 28.061340' N 1° 5.486580' W	11m	Buried wreck remains. Probably the remains of either LCT(5) 458 or LCT(6) 593.	29x14m	Investigate whether an LCT(5) or (6).
Contact 476	49° 28.357740' N 1° 6.871020' W 49° 28.366667' N 1° 6.816667' W	9m	Tank. 3 suspected DD tanks lost when their landing craft (LCT(6) 593) detonated a mine and sank on its way to launch the DD tanks. Another, unidentified target lies 80m north east (at second position) and is possibly the 4 th DD tank that was on the LCT.		Investigate three Shermans to confirm they are DDs. Locate and investigate the 4 th target to confirm its identity.
Contact 449	49° 27.368460' N 1° 8.140860' W	12m	Tank. Suspected DD tank that was swamped by nearby LCT(R) firing its load of rockets.		Investigate determine whether a DD.
Contact 384	49° 26.454180' N 1° 8.778960' W	10.7	Shipwreck in 2 parts? Landing Barge Vehicle (LBV) adjacent to large remains of other vessel. LBV Mk1 were dumb barges, LBV Mk2 were powered.	22x7m	Investigate whether the LBV is a Mk1 or Mk2 and general condition. Identify other wreckage – possibly dropped during salvage of nearby Gooseberry.
Contact 300	49° 27' 3.1644N 1° 10' 23.7144W	11.5m	LBV probably	23.9m x 7.28m	Confirm as LBV and whether a Mk1 or Mk2.
Contact 439	49° 25' 58.3716N 1° 9' 46.0512W	9.9m	LBV probably	21.97m x 7.43m	Confirm as LBV and whether a Mk1 or Mk2.
Contact 440	49° 25' 59.1708N 1° 9' 41.7018W	9m	Unidentified ship wreck	10.75m x 2.87m	Identify type of vessel.

MATRIX RISK ASSESSMENT

LOCATION	Diving Operations – Project Cardonnet – Baie de Seine - FRANCE
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ASSESSMENT CARRIED OUT BY:

NAME	SIGNATURE
Tom Templeton	
DESIGNATION	DATE
Member Southsea Sub Aqua Club	20 Mar 17

SER No./ Locat ion	AREA/ ITEM	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	Probability	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES	REDUCE D RATING NO.	DATE CLEARED
				Severity				REVIEW DATE
001	En Route	<u>Transporting charged gas cylinders.</u> Aboard ferries and in vehicles	All	3	6	Dangerous Goods Declaration required for Oxygen, Nitrox and Air contents. 60 litres limit per vehicle. UN green compressed gas stickers to be displayed. All cylinders to be secured in transit.	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
002	En Route	<u>Driving in France.</u> European car and Breakdown Insurance cover. Driving on the RH side of the road.	All	4	7	European car and breakdown Insurance required. Mandatory to carry warning triangle, reflective vest for all occupants, DIN standard First Aid kit, Spare headlamp kit, and Breathalyser. Fit GB sticker or Euro plates, Headlamp deflectors and 'Crit Air' quality certificate in certain areas. New from 31 Mar 17	5 (2+3) MEDIUM	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
003	Dive Site	<u>Traffic.</u> Impact injuries from moving vehicles	All	3	6	Advice of hazard. Site briefing, supervision. Individuals to exercise care and maintain a good lookout	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18

SER No./ Location	AREA/ ITEM	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	Probability	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES	REDUCE D RATING NO.	DATE CLEARED
				Severity				REVIEW DATE
004	Dive Site	<u>Loading & unloading from vehicles.</u> Sprains & strains from incorrect lifting. Crush injuries from dropped equipment.	All	4	6	Manual handling techniques and load sharing. Use of trolley for heavy equipment. Supervision during lifting activities.	3 (2+1) LOW	20 Mar 17
				2				20 Mar 18
005	Dive Site	<u>Slip, Trip and Fall.</u> Sprains, impact fractures from slipping or tripping	All	4	6	Site briefing, advice & supervision on quay and pontoon gangway access in wet and windy conditions.	3 (1+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				2				20 Mar 18
006	Dive Site	<u>Entry & Exit.</u> Impact & crush injuries. Drowning	Divers	3	6	Advice and supervision on entry and exit by Dive Manager/Coxswain. Ensure appropriate depth of water.	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
007	Dive Site	<u>Poor in-water visibility.</u> Buddy separation. Lost diver(s)	Divers	4	7	Use of Buddy lines. Abort dive if unsafe. Follow separation guidelines BSAC Safe Diving Practise	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
008	Dive Site	<u>Poor surface visibility.</u> Separation from buddy or dive boat	Divers	4	7	Use DSMB when safe to do so. Access to signalling equipment/ flares/PLB. Recall procedures briefed by Dive Manager	5 (2+3) MEDIUM	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
009	Dive Site	<u>Equipment malfunction.</u> Injury or death due to panic or rapid ascent	Divers	3	6	All equipment maintained within the manufacturers' guidelines (annually) and functionally tested before use. Cylinders in date for test and O2 service where appropriate. Equipment use to remain within designed operating envelope.	5 (2+3) MEDIUM	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18

SER No./ Location	AREA/ ITEM	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	Probability	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES	REDUCE D RATING NO.	DATE CLEARED
				Severity				REVIEW DATE
010	Dive Site	<u>Buoyancy control.</u> Injury or death due to panic and rapid ascent (Breath holding over as little as 1.4 metres on ascent within the first 10m of the water column will cause a lung over-expansion injury)	Divers	4	7	Training – set neutral buoyancy on mid-breath. Close supervision by Dive Leader to monitor buoyancy of less experienced divers (RISK to buoyancy control, DANGER of breath holding)	5 (2+3) MEDIUM	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
011	Dive Site	<u>Out of Air.</u> Suffocation or drowning	Divers	4	7	Close supervision by Dive Leader to monitor cylinder air pressures (RISK of out of air emergency) Access to Alternative Gas supply	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
012	Dive Site	<u>Hypothermia & hyperthermia.</u> Cold water shock or dehydration/overheating	Divers	4	7	Use correct size and weight exposure protection to suit prevailing conditions. Adjust weighting to compensate. Modify exposure times & fluid intake accordingly	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
013	Dive Site	<u>In-water Hazards.</u> Impact & crush injuries, entrapment & drowning	Divers	3	6	Site briefing, advice & close supervision (including gas consumption) by Dive Leader	5 (2+3) MEDIUM	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
014	Dive Site	<u>Sharp objects, fishing line & nets.</u> Puncture wounds & entanglement	Divers	4	6	Site briefing, advice & supervision. Spatial awareness. Carry sharp knife and net/line cutters – recommend two sited upper and lower body.	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				2				20 Mar 18

SER No./ Location	AREA/ ITEM	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	Probability	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES	REDUCE D RATING NO.	DATE CLEARED
				Severity				REVIEW DATE
015	Dive Site	<u>Surface hazards.</u> Impact & propeller injuries from boat traffic	Divers	3	6	Use of DSMB or shot on ascent. Advice on hazard. Buoyancy control, hand up first & 360 degree turn on surfacing. Coxswain awareness and policy of engine in neutral whenever divers are deployed and recovered. Only fully trained and qualified coxswains to helm RHIB while diving operations are in progress.	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
016	Dive Site	<u>Loss of shot line on decent or ascent.</u> Loss of buddy, dive site or surface cover. Rapid ascent or descent, panic & injury	Divers	3	6	Briefing, advice & supervision. Correct use of shot iaw training. All divers to carry a DSMB and be competent in its use. Controlled descent. Ascent rate no more than 10m/minute.	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
017	Dive Site	<u>Loss of surface cover.</u> Engine failure. Missing divers resulting in hypothermia & drowning	Divers	3	6	Properly maintained & serviced engine. Coxswains trained in emergency engine repair. Operating with other vessels when possible. Use of SMB on non-wreck dives. Use of DSMB when not returning to shot. Access to signalling device PLB	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18

SER No./ Location	AREA/ ITEM	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	Probability	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES	REDUCE D RATING NO.	DATE CLEARED
				Severity				REVIEW DATE
018	Dive Site	30m depth. Increased risk of DCI, burst lung, Nitrogen narcosis & drowning	Divers	3	6	No dives deeper than 30m unless suitably trained & equipped. Strict adherence to decompression obligation and backup tables to be cut for each dive. Medical Oxygen provision. Emergency Plan for DCI.	4 (2+2) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
019	Dive Site	Current, tide & swell. Separation from buddy, dive site and surface cover. Rapid ascent or descent leading to panic, injury or death	Divers	3	6	Site check by Dive Manager before dive to include analysis of weather forecast and tidal information. Briefing, advice & supervision. Abort dive if unsafe	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
020	Dive Site	Un-exploded ordnance	Divers	4	7	All divers are made aware of the dangers of disturbing ordnance on the seabed and within wrecks. Divers to advise Dive manager who will advise Coastguard	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18
021	In France	Medical Emergency	All	3	6	Telephone 15 – Medical Emergency. Carry European Health Insurance Card	4 (1+3) LOW	20 Mar 17
				3				20 Mar 18

RISK ASSESSMENT PROBABILITY AND SEVERITY MATRICES

	NEGLIGIBLE (1)	MARGINAL (2)	CRITICAL (3)	CATASTROPHIC(4)
(5) CERTAIN	HIGH (6)	HIGH (7)	EXTREME (8)	EXTREME (9)
(4) LIKELY	MODERATE (5)	HIGH (6)		
(3) POSSIBLE	LOW (4)	MODERATE (5)		
(2) UNLIKELY	LOW (3)	LOW (4)		
(1) RARE	LOW (2)	LOW (3)		

EXAMPLES

	NEGLIGIBLE (1)	MARGINAL (2)	CRITICAL (3)	CATASTROPHIC(4)
(5) CERTAIN	STUBBING TOE			
(4) LIKELY		FALL		
(3) POSSIBLE			MAJOR CAR ACCIDENT	
(2) UNLIKELY			AIRCRAFT CRASH	
(1) RARE				MAJOR TSUNAMI

EMERGENCY PLAN – CONTACT EMERGENCY SERVICES

LOCATION: BAIE DE SEINE

NEAREST PORT: GRANDCAMP-MAISY 14450 CALVADOS FRANCE

IN ANY EMERGENCY, TELL THE COASTGUARD IMMEDIATELY,
USING VHF MARINE RADIO **CHANNEL 16**

Radio Information:

ALWAYS CALL FOR ASSISTANCE ON CHANNEL 16.

A distress call or urgency call will have absolute priority.

If in a *DISTRESS* situation, **WHEN LIFE IS IN GRAVE, OR IMMINENT DANGER**, use the distress call as follows:

- **MAYDAY – MAYDAY – MAYDAY**
- NAME and/or CALL SIGN + MMSI of your craft
- Your present POSITION
- What is the nature of your PROBLEM TO CRAFT OR DIVERS

If in an *URGENCY* situation – when no imminent danger to life exists (e.g. if broken down and drifting), use the urgency call as follows:

- **PAN PAN – PAN PAN – PAN PAN**
- NAME and/or CALL SIGN + MMSI of your craft
- Present POSITION and INTENTIONS
- Nature of URGENCY

FIRST AID and MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

LOCATION O2 and First Aid Kit – O2 attached to A-Frame. First Aid Kit – Under Console

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Nearest Hyperbaric Chamber:

Caisson Militaire

Centre Hospitalier des Armées René la Bas

Docteur RIOU – Service de réanimation

61 Rue de L'Abbaye – BP3

50115 CHERBOUG-NAVAL

Tel: 02 33 92 78 00

Tel: 02 33 92 77 31

Route: 73km 54minutes Grandcamp-Maisy to Cherbourg via N13

D514 to Osmanville

Third Exit onto D613

Second Exit onto N13

Cherbourg via Carentan, Sainte-Mère-Église and Valognes by-pass

Cherbourg outskirts – Second Exit onto N2013, D900 and D901

Recreational Diving RAV1/17

SURVEY PROGRAMME

DAY 1 Saturday 3rd June

Dive 1 – Dive Time 06.40 – 09.40 High Water dive

Exercise A Find target 466, 470, 471, & 468 - drop shot line in the middle of the wreck area with buoy & confirm position.

Target 466 – M7 Priest

Target 470 – M7 Priest

Target 471 – M7 Priest

Target 468 – Landing craft remains?

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Dive 2 - Dive Time – 15.00 – 16.30 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Find target 470, 471, 468, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 466 – M7 Priest

Target 470 – M7 Priest

Target 471 – M7 Priest

Target 468 – Landing craft remains?

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

DAY 2 Sunday 4th June

Dive 1 – Dive Time 07.40 to 11.00 High Water dive

Exercise A: Locate target 463, 464 drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 463 – possible remains of LCT? 22m long buried

Target 464 - possible remains of ship 44m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Dive 2 – Dive Time 15.00 to 16.30 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Locate target 463, 464 drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 463 – possible remains of LCT? 22m long buried

Target 464 - possible remains of ship 44m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

DAY 3 Monday 5th June

Dive 1 – Dive Time 08.50 to 11.40 High Water dive

Exercise A: Locate target 475 drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 475 – possible remains of LCT? 30m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Dive 2 – Dive Time 16.00 to 17.30 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Locate target 450 drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 450 – Remains of buried wreck, unclear size and type

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

DAY 4 – Tuesday 6th June

Dive 1 – Dive Time 09.50 to 12.30 High Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 462, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 462 – possible remains of ship not LCT, 64m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Dive 2 – Dive Time 18.00 to 19.00 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 462, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 462 – possible remains of ship not LCT, 64m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

DAY 5 Wednesday 7th June

Dive 1 – Dive Time 10.50 to 13.10 High Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 459, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position.

Target 459 – possible remains of ship or LCT, 30m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Dive 2 – Dive Time 18.50 to 19.40 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 476, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position. + Identify and shot debris to the north 50m.

Target 476 – possible remains of small tank + debris 50m to north

Exercise B: 2 pairs of divers descend shot line to sketch and photograph features found. 2 pairs of divers go North 50m to investigate debris possible vehicles

DAY 6 Thursday 8th

Dive 1 – Dive Time 07.10 to 08.00 Low Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 384, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position. Drop additional shot on defined square structure.

Target 384 – possible remains of ship or LCT, 22m long buried + defined square structure to the east nearby

Exercise B: 2 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found. + 2 pairs of divers investigate nearby structure.

Dive 2 – Dive Time 11.30 to 13.50 High Water dive

Exercise A: Locate and shot Contact 300, drop shot line in the middle of the wreck with buoy & confirm position. Drop additional shot on defined square structure.

Target 300 – possible remains of ship or LCT, 24m long buried

Exercise B: 4 pairs of divers each work a 90° sector from shot line to sketch and photograph features found.

Exercise:- Recover boat and prepare for return journey to Portsmouth the following day.

Indicative Dive Plans**Dive Plan – Air - 12m****Dive 1 (Table A)**

CTC A	Depth	Dive time	6m stops	Surfacing Code
Plan	12m	45	None	C
Just Longer	12m	70	None	D
Just Deeper	18m	42	None	F
Worst Case	18m	70	3	G

Surface Interval 4 to 5 hours (Table B)

Dive 2

CTC B	Depth	Dive time	6m stops	Surfacing Code
Plan	12m	45	None	D
Just Longer	12m	70	None	D
Just Deeper	18m	42	1	G
Worst Case	18m	70	15	G

Indicative Gas planning requirements

(Assumes 20 surface litres per minute breathing rate and 75 bar reserve (1/3rd) and 15L cylinders).

Typical Dive Plan 45 minutes at 12m = 2.2 bar Absolute

15L x 232 bar = 3480L free air

75 bar reserve = 1125L reserve

3480L – 1125L = 2355L available air

2.2 bar x 20 SLM x 45 mins = 1980L

Leaving 375L free (+1125L reserve)

Typical Dive Plan 45 minutes at 18m = 2.8 bar Absolute

15L x 232 bar = 3480L free air

75 bar reserve = 1125L reserve

3480L – 1125L = 2355L available air

2.8 bar x 20 SLM x 42 mins = 2352L

Leaving 1128L reserve

Dive Plan – Nitrox 36%**Dive 1 (Table A 36%)**

CTC A	Depth	Dive time	6m stops	Surfacing Code
Plan	12m	45	None	C

Just Longer	12m	70	None	C
Just Deeper	18m	45	None	D
Worst Case	18m	70	None	E

Surface Interval 4 to 5 hours (B)

Dive 2

CTC B	Depth	Dive time	6m stops	Surfacing Code
Plan	12m	45	None	D
Just Longer	12m	70	None	D
Just Deeper	18m	54	None	E
Worst Case	18m	99	1	G

Indicative Gas Nitrox requirements

(Assumes 20 surface litres per minute breathing rate and 75 bar reserve (1/3rd) and 15L cylinders).

Dive Plan 42 minutes at 18m = 2.8 bar Absolute

15L x 232 bar = 3480L free air

75 bar reserve = 1125L reserve

3480 – 1125L = 2355L available air

2.8 bar x 20 SLM x 42 mins

Leaving 1125L reserve

Financial Estimate

Item	Quantity	Cost
Travel, Boat and Diving/Survey Costs		
Ferry costs for boat and 4x4 vehicle	Includes 2 people	£650.00
Ferry cost	3 x Car + 2 persons	£900.00
Boat fuel @ 75L per day	450L @ £1.20 per L	£540.00
Boat oil @2L per day	10L	£120.00
Portable Compressor Filters	2	£190.00
Paper chart SHOM 2135	1	£35.00
French Electronic chart for E7 Navigator	1	£199.00
Zeecom waterproof paper	1 pack	£40.00
Photographic scales	4	£40.00
ICC coxswain licenses	3x £45	£135.00
Marina Fees	6 nights (@£30 per night)	£180.00
INPP Level 1B certification fees	7 x 87Euro @1.15 Euro:£ = £75.65 x 7	£530.00
Accommodation and Food		
Accommodation	1 Gite for up to 10 persons (2878 Euro	£2,500.00
Food	8 persons @ £160 per day (8x£20)	£1,280.00
Sub-Total		
	Expedition total	£7,339.00