

Ryan McStravick



Please give details of all diving industry related interests, whether remunerated or not, and any other potential conflicts of interest

No conflicts of interest identified

What do you think are the key challenges facing BSAC, and what should we be doing to address them?

BSAC will be celebrating its 70 years later this year and what a journey the organisation has been on. One of the key challenges facing BSAC, is that of change, and the pace both the internal and external environment is evolving; this means there are the continuous wheels of change to balance.

We have already seen an exciting 3 year strategy shared in 2021 by the team, however the challenge will be the strategy delivery and future iterations post 2023 ensuring focus on topics that matter to members such as community, training evolution and strengthening accountability for the environment. It will be critical to have representation across the council of our members demographic to help shape/deliver for the future.

Additional challenges exist, in that members provide a wealth of information however limited infrastructure exists to harness the powerful data which could help shape and guarantee the success of BSAC and its members through evolution; including personalisation.

We saw the promising news of increased new member recruitment within the last year, however, it is pivotal to continue to grow members given the impact of the pandemic on the sport and outreach to even more people using a multichannel offering such as email, face to face, social media. Such promotion and member retention could be achieved by adapting to new ways of working and trial blaze

using data (once useable) to personalise events/training offering to members' interests whether that's from the technical diving to SDC offerings.

Critically BSAC must provide an agile response to changing demand and expectations of current and future members and look to reverse the declining membership seen over the past years including pre pandemic and promote the club both in the UK and overseas.

Please describe how you would contribute to any / all of these areas

Professionally, I have held a breadth of roles across client facing areas and central support teams within the Financial sector. My personal approach is a natural balance of ensuring customer delivery as well as optimising business commerciality. My experience in roles has been underpinned with my MBA qualification which utilises my passion to learn and innate inquisitiveness which will bring a unique curiosity to council matters. This is coupled with key skills across: Stakeholder management, forward planning, change execution, communication and performance insight/Root Cause Analysis

Key experiences:

- Embedding and delivering success across a range of topics including Organisation change and team development
- Relationship management across varying seniority including executive level
- Leading department performance ensuring consistent delivery against key performance metrics / strategy alongside governance ownership
- Accountable for the apprenticeship agenda for business unit - interlocking to external training agencies to resolve funding extensions / colleague queries. Alongside marketing and promoting the programmes across the colleague pool
- Coordination of committee agendas alongside paper iteration across various topics

I am also a member of the Chartered Banker Institute (MCBI).

Personal statement

Around 15 years ago, diving on holiday piqued my interest in the sport, post completing my PADI Junior Open Water. Coming back to the UK, I found the local BSAC club to continue my diving and training ultimately gaining my Dive Leader qualification -thanks to the support of the club's instructors. Naturally this led to me wanting to give back to the club (cementing the sense of community BSAC has) and gained my Open Water Instructor qualification.

Moving away from Belfast and the amazing diving across the north coast (highly recommend a trip), I moved away to North Wales for university and joined another BSAC club whilst I didn't manage to get any diving done due to balancing my Medical Science degree, the club was very welcoming.

Flash forward a few years with some diving in warmer waters including Malta and Turkey, I have now gotten back in UK diving with Bristol University club and taken my first dip in Vobster. Getting back into teaching within the club has been super exciting and looking forward to some more diving trips aboard this year (including my 1st live aboard)