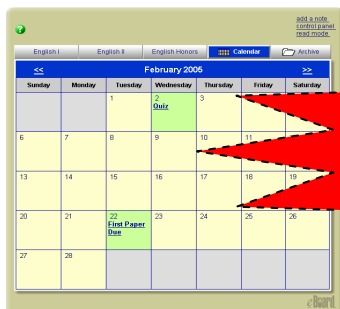


# CGSB SCUBA CLUB NEWS

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm)

Welcome to your 11 October 2007 copy of the  
CGSB SCUBA Club News



Click here for the Club  
CALENDAR

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSBCalendar.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSBCalendar.htm)

## When "Bye Bye" means "Hello"

We say "bye bye" and "many thanks" to Mr. Williams, who has left CGSB to go to Borden Grammar School in Sittingbourne. Mr. Williams has coordinated the CGSB SCUBA Club on the school side for three years, and introduced many of the current members.

We also say "hello" and welcome to Miss Wilson (Science), who has taken up the coordination reins from Mr. Williams. Miss Wilson is a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver and is currently doing her Emergency First Responder and Rescue Diver courses, so you'll be in very good hands.

## CONGRATULATIONS !!!

*Congratulations to James Hyde and to Jack Burgess who have both qualified as Advanced Open Water Divers*

## Club Coordinators Wanted

We are looking for volunteers (*quick, hide !!*) to be student coordinators at the school. No onerous duties, simply to be a point of contact if a student at the school wants to learn to SCUBA Dive or join the club, to liaise for the club with Miss Wilson and student club members, and also to gather and feed back ideas and suggestions for club activities. There will shortly be a CGSB SCUBA Club noticeboard in the school and you'll get your picture posted there so students know who to talk to on SCUBA matters.

Please let Miss Wilson know if you'd like to be one of the coordinators  
or email: [info@cgsbscubaclub.org.uk](mailto:info@cgsbscubaclub.org.uk)

## "NUTHIN 2DO WID DIVIN (1)"

### Ju got Java™ ?

When you view some of our web pages (and on other sites), do you sometimes see a blank rectangle with a red X in it ? Ever wondered what was there ? Most likely, it will be scrolling text or a "tickertape" to cram more text into a small area on the screen. The reason you cant see it is because you don't have the Java™ run time environment (JRE) module installed on your computer.

Easy to rectify. Click on (or copy and paste) the following link. It will check to see if you have Java™ installed at all, or whether you have the latest version, and either tell you you are ok, or install the latest version and fixes for you.

[www.java.com/en/download/index.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/index.jsp)

As soon as you have the latest version of Java™ installed, you'll be able to see the "missing" items.

# CGSB SCUBA CLUB NEWS

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm)

## “NUTHIN 2DO WID DIVIN (2)”

### Advanced Level Uniconfusion

For those of you starting your A2 year, no sooner have you settled in behind your desk than they have you planning what you're going to be doing when you leave the school. “Do they want me here, or what?” Hopefully, you're thinking about going on to University or at least on to employment that offer you specialised higher education qualifications.

For those of us who thought that a “personal statement” was a rude comment made about someone, it is actually a document that describes “you”, to admission officers at prospective Universities you are interested in. And you are required to write one.

This can be a bewildering time: “How on earth do I know what I want to do, let alone choose a University to do it in?”

And: “I'm sure everyone else already knows exactly what they want to do and I'm the only one who doesn't have a clue”.

Well, they don't, and you're not getting left behind. Only a very few of us will have a clear idea of what we want to be and have a crystal clear plan of what we need to do to get there. For the rest of us, we kind of go with the flow, guided by those advising us, and hope we don't screw up our future by making the wrong choices. And that's about right: at this stage of life, we are aiming to *avoid* making the *wrong* choices, rather than being expected to know what all the right choices are. There will be plenty of time later on to specialise, or even to switch between specialisms, so lets not overdo it now.

Some degrees are vocational – i.e. they prepare us for a specific role (such as medicine or law), and some are more general. An honours degree includes a non-taught project or dissertation and will be classified (1<sup>st</sup> class honours, upper second [2.1] lower second [2.2] and third class honours). All degrees involve rigorous study and, increasingly, practical application.

When you eventually go for your first career job, you will have no working experience, so you pose quite a risk to prospective employers: *What if he's no good?* And of course, no-one wants to risk spending time and money on training you if there's a risk you're going to turn out unable to learn and apply yourself. Degrees are accepted by employers as evidence that you can knuckle down in a new area, learn new things and apply yourself to new areas to get results. And they may also carry specialist knowledge or practical skills that allow you to walk in through the door and do productive work from day 1. Employers like that. In fact, you won't get in without the right credentials, or experience, or sometimes both.

If you haven't a clue about what career you want, have a look inside yourself, first. Do a “Who, What, Why, Where, When and How” analysis. Write those six words in a grid as row headings. Then write two column headings for the grid: “I like” and “I don't like”. In each cell in the grid try and write as many bullet points about what you like and don't like in other people and personalities, in things and tasks, in motivation and results, in locations and settings, in timings and timescales, and in methods and approaches. Keep reviewing and adding to it over a week or two. This may help you to externalise and understand what turns you on and what makes you pull your hair out. Now try to research careers that seem to tick as many of the “I like” bullet points as possible, while avoiding as many of the “I don't likes”. Maybe these are careers you could choose that will be fulfilling and make you happy.

When you do have an idea about what career(s) you're interested in, research what is involved in those careers. Look at job advertisements (not for the job, but for the requested qualifications, skills and experience needed in order to be considered) and ask people, who are in those careers already, what its like. Write to companies and see if you can get a work experience placement so you can gauge what its like from the inside.

Once you've narrowed down what you might want to be and what credentials you need, search for the Universities that deliver the degrees and content that you need. Suss out their reputation in the field you are interested in and make a “long shortlist” of the ones which might fit the bill. Consider what the social life is like there too, as you're going to spend a third of a decade of your social life there! Now write to the Unis on your longlist to get their prospectuses and drill through their websites to inform yourself as thoroughly as you can. Now look at the entry requirements for the relevant degrees offered. Are you doing the A-level subjects they are asking for, and can you pull your socks up and achieve the results they want? Different Unis offering the same degree title will have different entry requirements. And even in a single Uni, there will be variations on a core named degree to give a specialist angle (you might need maths for one specialism but not for another; a science for a third specialism but not for a fourth, and so on).

Whittle your longlist down to a shortlist and now probe the Unis on your shortlist for when they hold their open days. These are days when you can tour round the faculties and campuses and see what facilities are like for the courses you are interested in, as well as the social life. You'll be able to go round labs to libraries, lecture halls to accommodation. You'll be guided round by current students and you can get the inside line on what it is like there from them. Plus, Unis are reputed to favour candidates who have shown enough interest and nouse to come and have a look around before they apply to them. Now is the season for open days, so get booking now!! (there's absolutely no commitment to apply to the Unis you go and visit). You'll get a good comparison of student life as well as academic styles from your various open day visits. Don't worry about being surrounded by strangers – everyone there will be feeling the same as you.

While you've been doing all this, of course, you've been working on your personal statement. This is a bit of an advertisement, to sell you to the Unis you intend to apply to. If you've been to the open days, you'll have picked up the keywords and characteristics that they are looking for. And if you've done your “Who, What, Why, Where, When and How” analysis you'll know enough about yourself to select the relevant qualities that relate you to what the Unis are looking for (they are looking for personality and potential as much as for exam results). The more you can (honestly!) impress them about your personality and potential (compared with other applicants), the easier the offer they will make to you for your A-level exam results.

As a qualified Open Water Diver (or above), you've already demonstrated that you can learn and master a new and unusual set of skills and knowledge, in a strange and challenging environment, be bold as an individual and work together as a team player.

**Write it down!**

# CGSB SCUBA CLUB NEWS

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm)

## “NUTHIN 2DO WID DIVIN (3)”

### ADOBE Reader Versions and Web Links

We've had some feedback that some of you click on the links in these newsletters and nothing happens. As you read this, have a go at clicking on some of the links within this document.

Do they work for you ? Or does nothing happen ?

If the links don't work for you, you might be running an out-of-date version of Adobe Reader (really old versions used to be called Adobe Acrobat) on your computer. At the time of writing, the latest version is **version 8.1** which, amongst other things, enables you to click on links to websites from within a pdf document (like this one).

To check you've got the latest version, click on the <Help> tab at the top of this window and then click <Check for Updates>. Alternatively, go to [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) (remember, you'll have to cut and paste this into your browser if links aren't already working for you).

Follow the instructions to install any updates on your computer. If you've already got the latest version, it will confirm to you that there are no updates pending.

On a good day, this will enable you to click on hot links within your newsletter and other pdf documents.

**Right, so now you've got the latest Adobe Reader and you're able to click on working links - you've got no excuses - tell us what you want your club to do**

### ONLINE SURVEYS – YOUR OPINION REALLY DOES COUNT

We are experimenting with online surveys so we can focus on what **you** want the club to do, and so we can get feedback from you to understand what you have enjoyed and what we can do better.

*You may need to activate Java in your browser – if the survey links don't work for you, please do let us know !!!*

You can vote for and against ideas, strongly or mildly.

So far, it seems you'd like to do some sea dives and more dives other than Leybourne. There are some ideas like diving with seals, to shore dives, to non-diving activities ranging from Paintballing to dive-shows.

**What do you want your club to do ?**

If you haven't taken part yet, please would you take this opportunity by clicking on (or cut and paste) this link:-

<http://invictadivers.co.uk/tinc?key=kzYxhwto&formname=CGSBDiving>

**Note: if any of these links don't work on your computer, copy and paste them into your browser and then *please do let us know !!***

## PADI PRIZE DRAW

Enter the PADI monthly prize draw for introducing friends and family to SCUBA diving

Click on (or cut and paste) this link to read more ....>

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSBPADI DiversGetDivers.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSBPADI DiversGetDivers.htm)

## \*\*\*\*\* HALF TERM DIVES \*\*\*\*\*

We have the option of diving at Stoney Cove, Leybourne Lakes or Newhaven during the October Half term.

If you are interested, contact us by email: [info@cgbscubaclub.org.uk](mailto:info@cgbscubaclub.org.uk)

# CGSB SCUBA CLUB NEWS

[www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm](http://www.InvictaDivers.com/CGSB.htm)

## SCUBA Taster Sessions at the Black Lion Leisure Centre

We conducted a free SCUBA Taster session for CGSB students on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 19 CGSB-ers came and experienced SCUBA for the first time. All 19 said they enjoyed the experience and have indicated that they would like to learn to SCUBA Dive with the Club.

For anyone who missed the first SCUBA Taster session, we'll be holding a second event at the Black Lion Leisure Centre on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October from 08:00-13:00.**

Please ask anyone who would like to come to contact Miss Wilson at the school, or to email: [info@cgsbscubaclub.org.uk](mailto:info@cgsbscubaclub.org.uk)

Entry to the Centre will be free, just let them know you're coming for SCUBA Diving

We'd like to welcome the new students to the club, and to thank all of the helpers at the SCUBA Taster events. Courses for the new members will run from November to March.

## RED SEA DIVING HOLIDAY

*"The best diving available to us on a short haul flight"*

We're off to the Red Sea for a diving holiday between October 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>  
We'll give you a write-up and post some pictures in our next newsletter



For a description of the holiday, and more photographs, click on this link:-

[www.invictadivers.com/RedSeaDayboatHoliday.htm](http://www.invictadivers.com/RedSeaDayboatHoliday.htm)

LOOKING BACK . . . Click on this link for the July 07 Newsletter

[www.invictadivers.com/CGSBSCUBAClubNewsletterJuly2007.pdf](http://www.invictadivers.com/CGSBSCUBAClubNewsletterJuly2007.pdf)