



Training Platform Project

St Peter Basin
Salford Quays

East Cheshire Sub Aqua Club

October 2015

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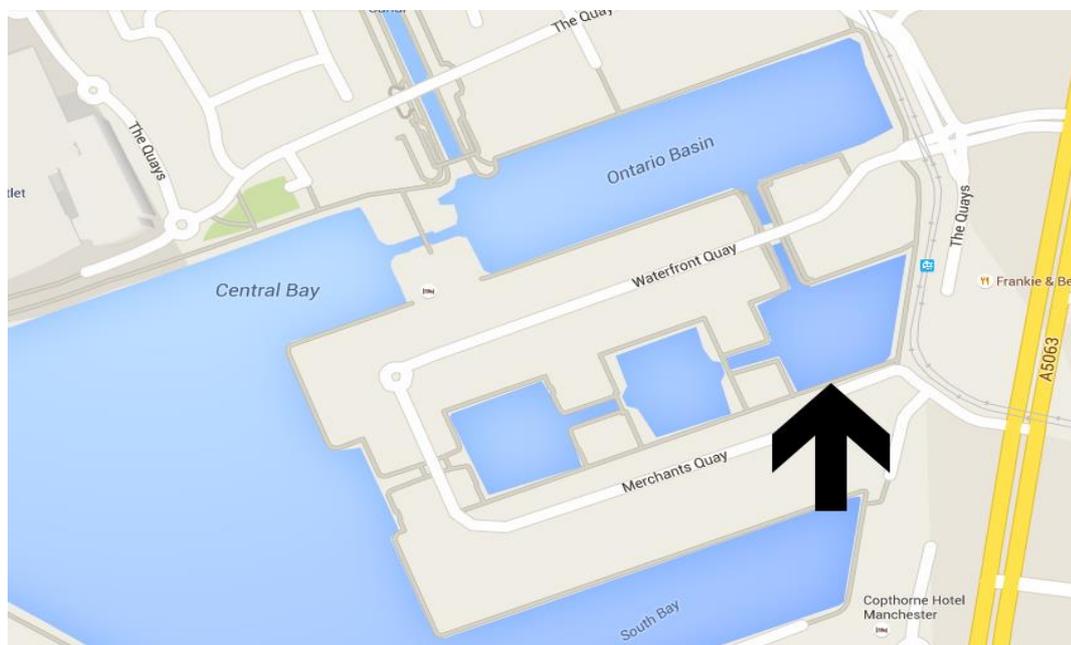
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Introduction

East Cheshire Sub Aqua Club delivered a project to place a scuba training platform into St Peter Basin in Salford Quays.

This project is intended to enable Scuba Instructors to safely take trainee divers into the basin and conduct training on a raised platform that will ensure we keep the training away from the silt present in the basin. This will provide a stable and safe location in which to conduct training.

The basin itself is located within the Salford Quays complex, St Peter Basin is next to the Salford Quays Tram Stop, in between Waterfront Quay and Merchants Quay. The postcode is - Salford M50 3WL.



Platform Design

The platform has been constructed using an aluminium tower, topped with a set of 2m x 3m galvanized gratings as per the photograph below



The gratings are securely fixed onto the top of the aluminium tower and the tower is sited in the basin with a guideline running from the entry steps to the tower to ensure it can be located easily on a dive.

It is noted that there may be a reaction between the aluminium frame and the galvanized elements, particularly as the water in the basin is likely to be brackish, the condition of the metals will be carefully monitored over time



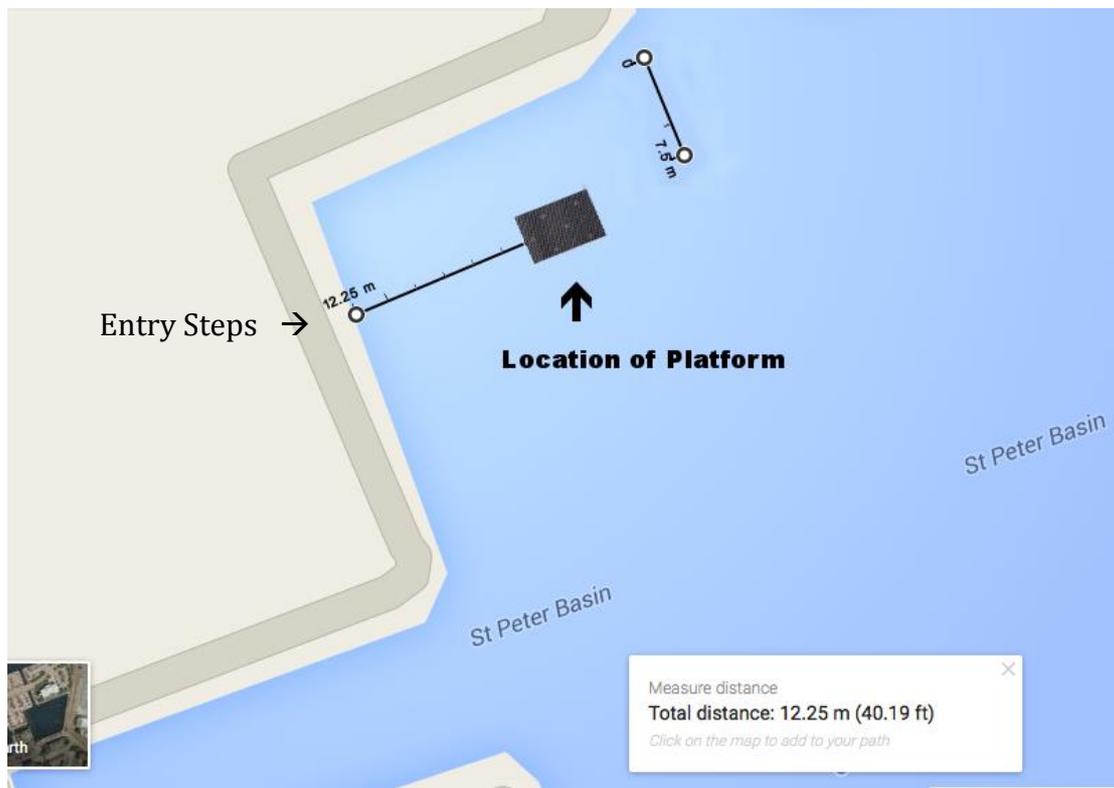
Location of the Platform

Having conducted a survey of the basin it is clear that the silt levels (up to 1.6m) on the south and east sides of the basin are very deep and would potentially cause difficulty not only in siting the platform but also in creating poor visibility as divers travelled to and from the platform.

The survey plan is included in this document in

Annex 1 - Survey notes – depths and silt conditions on page 6

On that basis and also taking account of access and parking the recommended location for the platform was agreed as the North-West corner, sited away from the entrances to the canals and in an area of low silt (20cm).



The platform is set level and situated 15 meters from the entry steps and 10 meters from the north wall of the basin.

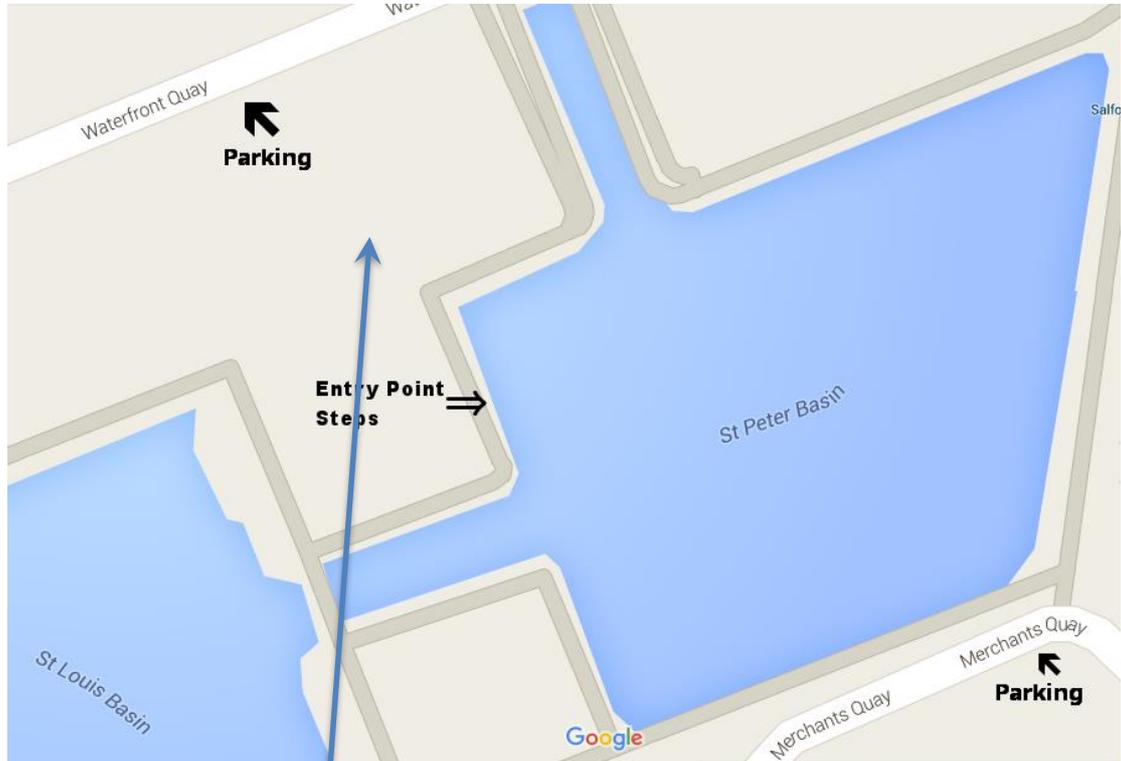
A guideline has been installed, connected to the base of the steps and leading to the left corner of the platform to enable students and instructors to easily locate the platform and avoid kicking up the silt. This also provides an easy means to navigate back to the entry/exit steps from the platform even in low visibility conditions.



Parking and Access

St Peter Basin can be accessed from either Waterfront Quay or Merchants Quay. Both of these have limited parking, this is available at weekends or after 6pm in the week.

The best parking is on Waterfront Quay as there are more spaces here and it avoids a longer walk to the recommended entry point via the steps on the north-eastern corner.



The view of Waterfront Quay looking south towards St Peter Basin (on the left) with on-street parking on the right.

Access to the car park for vehicles is currently blocked by a locked barrier. However it is a short walk once kitted up and access to the steps is quite easy.

Pedestrian access once kitted up is via the path at the side of the building Then across the car park.



Waterside Access

Prior to using the site the WaterSports Center should be notified and all divers registered using the form at Annex 2 on Page 7. Registration lasts for one year.

Access to the water in the basin can be gained via a number of sets of steps. The recommended entry point will be via the steps marked on the previous page, on the Waterfront Quay side of the road.



The gate to the steps is not locked



There is a life preserver located next to the steps.

The bottom stone step is actually over 50cm out of the water and at the base of the ladder the water is only 1.5m deep so a giant stride entry would not be advisable. We would recommend an entry via the ladder into the water (without fins) and then fit fins whilst in the water.

Exit would best be achieved after removing fins, weight belt and scuba gear and then climbing the ladder. The addition of a knotted rope, (as depicted by the blue line on the photo) connected to the post above would also aid exit from the water as the ladder is quite low.



Annex 1 - Survey notes – depths and silt conditions



Annex 2 - Diver registration form for the Watersports Center

**Helly Hansen Watersports Centre
Diver Registration form 2015**



All Divers will need to re-register on an annual basis. This form is valid until 31 March 2016

To participate in Diving activities in Salford Quays, all Divers must register by completing the registration form below, and return to:

Salford Watersports Centre, 15 The Quays, Salford, M50 3SQ. Tel: 0161 877 7252 Fax: 0161 778 0582.

Please print & complete all fields

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (delete as applicable) _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Tel (day) _____ (evening) _____

Dive Club: _____

D.O.B. _____

Employment Status: _____

Ethnic Background: _____ Salford Resident? Yes/No

Diving Qualifications (please enclose copies):

Do you have a health problem, disability or special need?

In case of emergency contact:

Name : _____ Relationship : _____

Tel :Number: Mobile _____ Evening _____

By signing this form, I agree to the following:

- I confirm that that they are physically and medically fit to take part in Diving activities that I will inform the Dive Marshall of any medical issues.
- I am a competent Diver, or I am undertaking training lead by a competent Diver
- Salford Watersports Centre / Salford Community Leisure Ltd will not be held responsible for any injury or death to myself / my group, caused by the negligent actions of myself / my group.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

Name of parent or guardian if under 18: _____

Annex 3 – Email trail for Indemnity approval

On 21/10/2015 21:24, "Watson Jim" <JimW@bsac.com> wrote:

Hi Kevin

In general the form is OK
and the normal insurance document will cover it.

The one thing the insurance cannot cover
is any liability arising from non-BSAC members using the platform.

I am back in the office for the day on Monday next week if you want to give me a call.

Jim

From: "Mullen, Andy" <Andy.Mullen@urbanvision.org.uk> **Date:** Fri, 23 Oct 2015 12:58:16 +0000 **To:** KJP <kevinjp@btinternet.com> **Cc:** Mark Paisey <mark.paisey@btinternet.com>, Steve Welton <s.welton@techniheat.co.uk>, "Germain, David" <david.germain@scll.co.uk>, "Stones, Geoff" <Geoff.Stones@scll.co.uk> **Subject:** RE: Scuba Training platform

Kevin

On insurance – i think we are trying to cover the council in the event of a claim arising from unauthorised use by third parties

There is a risk – but it is probably a small one - and i have accepted that you have limited control over use by third parties

We cannot really expect you to police use 24/7 only to “hide” the platform as far as practical to prevent unauthorised use by others

we must accept therefore that your insurance covers your clubs use and consider what cover is required if we / SCL allowed others to use the platform or in the unlikely event that it was being used by third parties without consent

andy

Annex 4 – Indemnity form

To: Urban Vision Partnership Ltd, Property Division,
Emerson House, Albert Street, Eccles, Salford M30 0TE

FORM OF INDEMNITY AND MEMORANDUM OF TERMS OF LICENCE FOR USE OF LAND / WATER AT ST PETER'S BASIN

In consideration of the Council of the City of Salford allowing me / us to use St Peter's Basin and adjacent walkways and water access points

From 1st November 2015 until terminated by either party

For use in connection with the installation of a sub-aqua divers platform resting on the floor of the basin – and for the subsequent use of the platform in connection with sub-aqua activity at St Peter's Basin

I /
For and on behalf of:

Hereby indemnify the Council of the City of Salford and its officers, agents, servants, representatives, contractors against all actions, claims, losses, damages, expense or liability whatsoever, caused directly or indirectly by my / our use of the land / water

The indemnity insurance should be with an insurance company approved by the Council and provide minimum cover for the above-mentioned risks for the amount of five million pounds. Evidence of such cover will be provided for officers of the Council if so required.

I / we confirm agreement that the licence hereby granted by the Council of the City of Salford is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) I / we will comply with any request relating to my / our use of the water / land made in writing by any duly authorized officer of the Council of the City of Salford or the Watersports Centre operated by Salford Community Leisure
- 2) I / we agree to carry out the installation of the platform in accordance with method statements prepared after proper risk assessments have been carried out and with all due consideration for people carrying out installation and for occupants and visitors to adjacent premises and for passers-by
- 3) I / we agree to carry out any relevant investigations and take appropriate actions to ensure the safety of our divers using St Peter's Basin and the divers underwater platform and to ensure the divers underwater platform will not be made visible with surface markers when not in use.
- 4) I / we agree to keep the platform properly secured and in safe condition
- 5) I / we agree to install and use the platform only at dates and times agreed prior to use with the Watersports Centre and to report to the Watersports Centre each time the platform is to be used.
- 6) I / we agree that no estate, right, or interest whatsoever will accrue to any person or body by virtue of my / our use of the land / water
- 7) I / we agree to comply with all statutes, regulations, bye-laws, Health & Safety advice etc relating to the use of the land / water
- 8) I / we will cause no nuisance to the Council, its tenants or neighbors.
- 9) I / we accept that St Peter's Basin and the divers platform will be available for use by other parties who have obtained prior agreement of the Watersports Centre
- 10) I / we agree that this licence may be terminated by either party on one weeks notice.

SIGNED BY:

ON BEHALF OF:

Kevin Pullin

East Cheshire Sub Aqua Club.

Annex 5 – Site Risk Assessment

SITE RISK ASSESSMENT

Site Name: St Peter Basin, Salford Quays

Date of Assessment: 23/09/2015

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Risk Evaluation/ Likelihood
Slips and trips	Divers and members of the public may be injured if they trip over objects or slip on wet surfaces.	General good housekeeping is carried out. Kit kept tidy and site briefings given by dive leaders to point out hazards. Public should be asked not to get too close to divers. Kit should be kept tidy and in a limited area.	Ensure Dive Managers include these hazards in pre-briefing and shore cover are suitably briefed to manage kit and bystanders accordingly.	Dive Manager Shore Cover	Pre-Dive During dive	Medium
Loss / damage of equipment	Divers equipment may be damaged or lost/stolen in what is an open public area	Ensure we have shore cover to keep an eye on any kit left on shore.	Ensure team on site are vigilant	Shore Cover	On whole event	Medium
Drowning	Divers and/or surface cover + public	Lifebelts are supplied at poolside, surface cover (rescue trained is on hand). Divers monitored and dive as buddy pairs. Onlookers kept from water's edge and behind chain fence.	Ensure nearest life belt is in place, take the club O2 kit along and have a rescue trained diver in the water at all times when students are in the water.	Dive Manager, Shore Cover and Instructors	Pre-event and during event	Low
Lifting	Access to the pool is via ladder, these are low ladders and awkward to exit from. Divers may slip or pull muscles if they attempt to exit fully kitted.	Divers should de-kit in the water, pass kit up to surface cover to exit the water via ladder. A rope should be used to enable people to lift themselves off the top of the ladder	Ensure pre-brief covers these points. Remind instructors to brief this also and ensure people are instructed on how to exit.	Dive Manager, Shore Cover and Instructors	Pre-event and during event	Medium

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Risk Evaluation/ Likelihood
Reduced underwater visibility	Divers get separated or inexperienced divers may be spooked and panic.	Divers to dive in buddy pairs at all times. Contact to be maintained throughout the dive. Strobes or buddy lines to be carried.	In case of separation standard process to followed. 1 min search, then surface. Re-establish contact. Surface cover to render assistance as required.	Divers Instructors to brief accordingly.	Pre-Dive	High
Contact with sharp objects	Divers – (injury hazard)	Site to be cleared of major objects annually, site survey identified 2 or three that need attention.	Advise divers not to swim into silt or push hands into it. Care should be taken in low visibility, gloves should be worn.	Dive Manager, Shore Cover and Instructors and Divers.	Pre and during dives.	Medium/Low
Entanglement with underwater objects/ropes	Divers – potential entrapment and drowning	Dive Marshal to brief divers of danger areas. All divers carry appropriate cutting implement, such as filament line cutter, wire snips, diving knife.	Line following discipline should be followed (do not go under lines).	Divers Instructors to brief accordingly.	Pre and during dives.	Medium
Water and Air Temperature	Divers and shore cover - hypothermia	All divers to wear appropriate thermal protective clothing, including dry suit, gloves and hood.	If people are too cold, provide first aid treatment for hypothermia. Ensure on cold days warm drinks and warm water are taken.	Dive Manager, Shore Cover and Instructors and Divers.	Pre and Post dives.	High in winter
Ear Damage	Divers (depth is in excess of that which can damage ears)	Trainees receive specific instruction in 'ear clearing'. Divers or snorkellers do not dive when suffering from a cold.	Assistance from Instructor or buddy	Instructors and Divers. (all in the water).	During dives.	Medium
Running out of air	All Divers – emergency situation	All SCUBA sets fitted with cylinder pressure gauges. Monitoring by Instructor or buddy. Instructor/trainee ratios in accordance with BSAC recommendations.	All divers carry AS.	All Divers	Pre dive checks including buddy checks and frequent checks during dives.	Medium

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Risk Evaluation/ Likelihood
Rapid Ascent	All Divers – barotrauma	Progressive training. Correct weighting of all divers. Monitoring by Instructor. Instructor / trainee ratios in accordance with BSAC recs. Visual datum used for ascent exercises where needed	Diving monitored by shore / boat cover able to provide / direct assistance. Oxygen Administration equipment and trained administrators on site.	Dive Manager, Shore Cover and Instructors and Divers.	Pre and during dives.	Medium
Contact / collision with other water users	All – personal injury or kit damage	Dive Marshal to plan use of site to reduce diver/diver contact. Liaise with other water Users.	If other water users present in the basin advise use of DSMB if surfacing away from the exit line. SMB to be deployed from the platform.	If a collision occurs, remove casualty from the danger and water. First Aid.	Pre-event and during event	Low (if we have sole use) Medium/High if other users arrive
Objects thrown at divers	All – injury	Divers to exit the danger area. Security to be contacted to remove offenders. HH Centre Number – 0161 877 7252	Carry out pre-dive checks on the area to ensure it is clear of potential problems before kitting up.	Provide any first aid that may be appropriate. Hospitalise, if required.	Pre-event and during event	Low
Diving equipment malfunction	All Divers – potential emergency situation.	Divers to carry octopus rig to cover loss of primary second stage. To be checked in brief and buddy check	All diving equipment must be checked as being in service and fit for purpose.	Dive to be aborted. Buddy to render assistance to casualty.	Pre and during dives.	Low
Helixer in operation (aeration pump in basin).	All Divers – may be trapped or visibility reduced.	Check with HH center as to when and if Helixer is to be switched on.	Ensure buddy teams maintain an awareness of its location. Steer clear if it is to be switched on.	Dive Manager to brief on this.	Pre and during dives.	Medium

THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF POSSIBLE HAZARDS. This risk assessment should be reviewed bi-annually.

Alternatively if it is considered out of date or no longer be valid (e.g. following an accident or incident or if there are any significant changes to hazards, such as new equipment or training/diving activities) it should be reviewed prior to the next trip to this location.