

**BUPG**

# NEWSLETTER BRISTOL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

**September 2025**

## Welcome to the September edition of our Members Newsletter!

Autumn is definitely here and the nights are drawing in, but don't get SAD as we've got competition results, presentation reviews and future trips to get excited about in this month's edition. Don't forget if you've got something to share in our newsletter, please email [info@bupg.co.uk](mailto:info@bupg.co.uk)

### In This Month's Issue:

- *BUPG Monthly competition results*
- *Other UK competition successes*
- *Snorkelling Britain – talk summary*
- *UK Dive trips*
- *Competition Calendar*

## September Competition – Split Shots

The definition of this months' competition theme :-  
"A single image that captures both the world above and below the waterline in one frame."

There were 10 entries on the night, judged by 12 attending members, each casting a vote for their favourite image.



In first and second place was **Kirsty Andrews** with two fantastic split shots. Top spot was the Eddystone Lighthouse & Jellyfish split with 4 votes, closely followed by a shallower split of a snorkeller and coastline with 3 votes. Well done Kirsty!

## NOVEMBER COMPETITION THEME 1 - BEST OF BRITISH



Two images tied for third place with 2 votes each, from **Trevor Rees & Dan Bolt**.



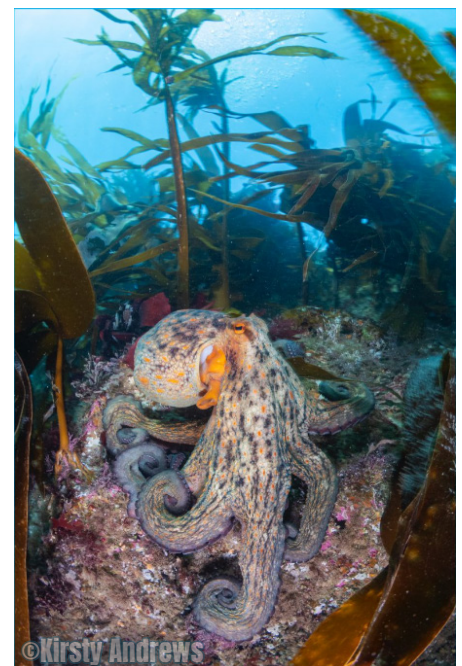
Well done to all who took part! Next month's competition has been postponed until November, when we will run two categories together – Best of British and Portraits, so get your entries ready!

## BIUPC 2025 Competition

The annual **British & Irish Underwater Photography** event showcased some amazing shots, all taken and entered within a very limited timeframe on 30th August in somewhat mixed UK weather conditions.

**BSOUP's** Maja Stankovski & Paul Colley formed the judging panel and once again, **BUPG** members featured prominently among the top placed images, with **Dan Bolt** winning the Environment category and **Cathy Lewis** achieving highly commended in the Close up category.

But topping both Wide Angle and Close up categories and winning the overall Champion title for a second year in a row, was our very own **Kirsty Andrews!** Huge congrats to **Kirsty** and all those who took part and got a placing in this prestigious UK & Irish event.



## NOVEMBER COMPETITION THEME 2 - PORTRAITS



Well done to **Dan Bolt**, who certainly made a splash at this years' Torbay event, taking 1st prize in both Wide Angle and Close Up categories and achieving the Popular Vote with his Blenny image.



*If you've triumphed in any competitions we haven't mentioned then please let us know as we'd love to give you a 'shout out' and help promote your success!*

## Snorkelling Britain – by Gordon & Emma Taylor

This month Gordon & Emma kindly gave a talk on how their new book, "Snorkelling Britain" came about.

Some of the challenges we faced in the three years it took to bring the vision to reality included limited time for research between full time jobs and parenting, unreliable British summers, long drives to far flung places, and undertaking an photography project with only basic underwater camera kit or knowledge!

We muddled through though and we are very proud of the resulting guidebook, which we hope will be a valuable resource for new and experienced snorkellers for years to come.





Emma and Gordon Taylor are qualified SCUBA and snorkelling instructors and keen sea swimmers. They have spent 20 years exploring Britain's coast and have two young children who also love snorkelling.

Their comprehensive guide caters to all levels, from those taking their first tentative glimpse underwater to seasoned explorers seeking a new challenge.



Learn to identify camouflaged creatures, navigate different underwater terrains and understand how to snorkel responsibly. With stunning photography, detailed site descriptions and extensive practical information, this new book is just the inspiration you need to get out and explore Britain's hidden underwater world.

Get your copy now at [Amazon](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1851927118) or many other online or traditional book stores.



## 2026 Scilly Isles Dive Trip - Register Interest Now!

28th June - 3rd July, Diving with Skin Deep  
- limited to 10 places.

Approx. costs: Boat - 2026 prices - £6425  
so £642.50 each assuming 10 divers

Accommodation - this year it worked out at  
£362.50 each

Travel - ferry & dive container approx £200  
each

Total approx £1200 plus food and  
refreshments!

If this goes ahead a 1/3 deposit - £400.00 is  
required to secure your spot.

Contact **Rick Ayrtton** for details



## Porthkerris Diving Trip 2026 - Book Now!

Friday 5th - Monday 8th June, Diving off the CAT - very limited places.

Contact Nick Watson for details: 07798-625832

## Competition Calendar & Programme

### 2025

|           | Theme                                                                |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January   | Long Exposure – meeting online                                       |
| February  | Super Macro – meet at Severnside                                     |
| March     | Theme Portfolio – meeting online                                     |
| April     | Wrecks – meeting online                                              |
| May       | Underwater Excellence (portfolio) – meet at Severnside               |
| June      | Silhouettes – meeting online                                         |
| July      | Nudibranchs – meet at Severnside                                     |
| August    | Sunbeams – meet at Severnside                                        |
| September | Split Shots – meeting online                                         |
| October   | Meeting cancelled – (Martin Edge Memorial Lecture, Imperial College) |
| November  | Best of British (portfolio) & Portrait – meeting online              |
| December  | Beginner's Portfolio & Print Competition – meet at Severnside        |

Please check the rules before entering any of our competitions – a copy can be found [here](#)

## Our next meeting is on Tuesday 11th November

Please try to make it in person to our in-person meetings as its always great to meet members face-to-face.

Why not submit your tips, hacks or workflow ideas to share and we can publish in future newsletters?

If you have any news, feature ideas, trips or product reviews, then please drop me a message.  
You can email [info@bupg.co.uk](mailto:info@bupg.co.uk) or contact me directly [here](#)

Best regards and Happy Diving!

*Mike*

Mike Harding

## Trips for 2025 & 26 on Red Alert Plymouth

18th -19th September 2025 & 29th April-2nd May 2026 - Contact Chris or Cathy Lewis!

## Do you have Kit for Sale or to Swap ?

Why not advertise it here in our Newsletter? Or go to our club [Facebook](#) page!!