

**THE FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF READING****GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

The Friends welcome applications from across the University and associated organisations that support projects which promote the welfare of the University, develop public interest in its work and aid its outreach activities. Grants will not normally be made for expenditure which would generally be funded from University academic resources. Grants are awarded on the condition that they are publicly acknowledged and that the funds are spent by 24 March the following next year. Further information on the grants process and previous grants awarded can be found on <http://thefriends.org.uk>

Name of Project : Reading University Sub-Aqua Club Equipment Renewal

Name of Applicant: David Ashmore

Email address: d.ashmore@reading.ac.uk

School/Dept/Organisation: Reading University Sub Aqua Club Telephone number 07928502432

**What is the grant to fund?**

The Sub Aqua Club is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation which provides affordable training and mentorship for students and staff to train in SCUBA diving, from novice level through to diving instructor. The club has been operating for a number of decades and has introduced hundreds of members to the underwater world.

It has been almost 20 years since our collection of BCD's (an integral part of the SCUBA equipment - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buoyancy\\_compensator\\_\(diving\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buoyancy_compensator_(diving)) ) were replaced. As a result, they are getting extremely worn and it is costing us a large amount of time and money to keep them in service. Essentially they have become beyond economical repair. Since they are part of what can be viewed as the diver's life support system it is imperative that we keep them in good condition or replace them. We currently have 14 BCDs (although only 11 are serviceable at this time), and are seeking funding to replace as many as possible. We have applied to RUSU for a grant to assist and have been told they may be able to fund some, but certainly not all of our requirement, if indeed they are able to spare any money. I have negotiated a discounted price of £250 per BCD with a supplier, and we would like to request that the Friends of University of Reading fund as many as possible (we would tentatively and very respectfully ask for funding for 6 but would welcome any funding the Friends of UoR would be able to offer)

**Who will benefit from the Project?**

The Sub Aqua Club is open to all staff, students and alumni. The majority of our members are students but there are members like myself who are staff, other members who are postgrad and researchers as well as a number of alumni who continue to volunteer their time to assist the club. The people who will benefit the most out of these members will be the students, who generally speaking are unable to afford to purchase their own SCUBA equipment due to the high costs involved.

**Overall project cost (inc VAT) 14 x £250 = £3500**

**Amount requested from The Friends up to 6 x £250 = £1500**

**If the grant requested is not the same as the overall project cost, please indicate how the remainder will be funded:**

We will pay for what we can from our limited funding from RUSU and hope that the remainder will be funded by grants we have already applied for. If we do not receive funding for all the BCD's we hope for, we will have to just acquire less and continue to service the old BCDs.

**Are there any running costs or other ongoing costs associated with this application, if so how will these be funded?**

Our annual servicing for kit is funded by our membership fees.

**How will the contribution from The Friends be publicly acknowledged (e.g. by a plaque, website etc)?**

We have nowhere meaningful to put plaques, but we may be able to arrange for a badge to be made and sewn onto each BCD. We will also be able to publicise this through our website [www.rubsac.org.uk](http://www.rubsac.org.uk) as well as our facebook presence.

Please ensure that this application has the approval of your Head of School / Service/Organisation.

Name of Head Oliver Daligliesh, President  
p.p. Adam Bailey – Student Activities Manager, RUSU

Email address [o.g.dalgleish@student.reading.ac.uk](mailto:o.g.dalgleish@student.reading.ac.uk)

Please return your application to [thefriends@reading.ac.uk](mailto:thefriends@reading.ac.uk) by **17 April 2018 with subject heading Grant application.**

If you have not received an acknowledgment within 5 days of submitting your application, please contact us.