

## JERSEY LADIES SCUBA DAY 2016

Meningitis can affect anyone, but is most common in babies, young children, teenagers and young adults. Bacterial Meningitis can be very serious. If not diagnosed quickly it can cause life-threatening blood poisoning ([septicemia](#)) and result in permanent damage to the brain or nerves.

This weekend marks Ladies Scuba Day. All over the world women divers will be doing something special to mark the event and the Jersey group have decided to raise awareness of this disease and funds to help research.

On Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 16:00 Lady Scuba Divers of all ages and levels of experience will navigate their way around the depths of Bouley Bay following a special course while at the same time raising money to help fund research into the treatment.

Last year the group raised over £1200 for the Macmillan Fund and it would be nice if this year with the help of public support they could raise a similar amount for Meningitis Research.

The event is being jointly organised by Toyah Tomkins the Manger of Bouley Bay Dive Centre & Kevin McIlwee the Coordinator for Jersey Seasearch. Both Toyah & Kevin are keen to support local charities through diving which although challenging is also an activity of great benefit to people recovering from serious illness or injury.

The Ladies will enter the water at 16:30 and follow an underwater course in pairs and must stay submerged for a minimum of 20 minutes below 5m to count as a dive.

All the participants have pledged a minimum of £25 to take part and a page has been set up on the Jersey Seasearch Website to accept donations.

Any Ladies out there who hold a diving qualification are welcome to join the group for the dive and should contact the Dive Centre to register by Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> and Bouley Bay Dive Centre have agreed to provide equipment (subject to availability) free of charge plus support for the event.

The spokesperson for the group is Toyah Tomkins. She is the Manger of Bouley Bay Dive Centre and a Professional Association of Diving Instructor. Sadly, Toyah lost a close family member to Meningitis and is keen to do something to help fund research into better diagnosis and treatment.

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