

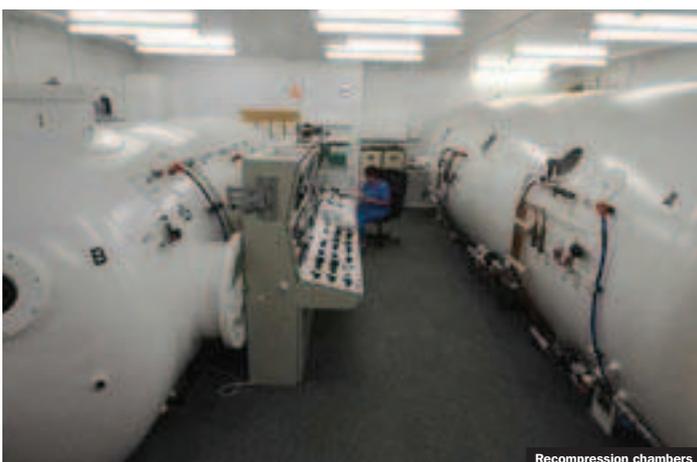
Heswall Magazine learns about Seacombe-based Emergency Services Training Centre...



There is a growing demand worldwide for training for emergency services and the offshore sector. The Emergency Services Training Centre (ESTC) is a non-governmental organisation that specialises in providing such training. The centre has the facilities to merge any agencies to test their resilience under arduous conditions and, uniquely, it concentrates on the medical aspects of rescue and recovery, rather than just rescue.

Training courses are run for specialist organisations such as Merseyside Search and Rescue, Liverpool John Moores University, St John's Ambulance, and police, fire and ambulance services. Diver Medical Technician training is offered throughout the year. All courses are fully accredited and attract students from all over the world. All instructors and tutors hold an A1 Assessors and Internal Verifier qualifications and most also have a Certificate of Education.

The centre works with educational establishments such as the Royal College of Surgeons (England), national resilience teams, universities, colleges and schools to ensure that educational input is cutting-edge and accurate.



ESTC is a truly impressive organisation with a highly skilled and experienced team and a complex and extensive range of equipment with which to deliver specialised training and medical services. Owner Dave Alcock (CEO. Cert. Ed, IQA, City & Guilds) is vastly experienced in fire service and emergency medical response areas. He also manages the busy Hyperbaric Unit at Murrayfield Hospital and has extensive knowledge and experience in the offshore and diving industry.

Dave told *Heswall Magazine*: "We've been based on the Wirral for over 22 years and treated over 30,000 patients. Originally we delivered training from our Hyperbaric Unit based in the grounds of Murrayfield Hospital in Thingwall, but as this side of the business grew it became obvious that we needed to move. I'm based on the Wirral, as are 12 permanent members of staff, so we were determined to find somewhere local. It took a long time to find suitable premises, but seven years ago we secured this site on East Street, next door to Seacombe Ferry and overlooking the iconic Liverpool Waterfront – it's the perfect location from which to deliver our training.

"We have a ten-year plan to become one of the biggest emergency services training centres in Europe and are currently on target to achieve this.

"Divers come from all over the world – we arrange accommodation for them in local hotels and always use local suppliers whenever possible. We belong to the Wirral Chamber of Commerce and have an excellent working relationship with our local council.



"We regularly host open days for local schools to promote the police service, with as many as 200 attendees. Our premises are used regularly for TV programmes by the BBC and ITV and our experts are often asked to provide technical advice on accident reconstructions."

"Our courses are geared towards emergency service personnel and offshore staff; however, we can also run specific scenario fire and safety training for businesses on the Wirral.

If you are interested in learning more about us or visiting our site, please contact us by emailing Pat Barlow – pat@emergencyservices-training.com. Alternatively check out our websites: emergencyservices-training.com or hyperbaric-medicine.co.uk

PARTNERSHIPS

