

SPEAR

SEARCH AND RESCUE



SIMEX 2018!

On May 15th SPEAR members Merv & Jamie were invited along to observe at a multi-agency training exercise called SIMEX18

SIMEX18 was led by the University of Portsmouth, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, L2S2 and RedR in close partnership with 64 other key organisations. The planning for the exercise started in June 2017 and was designed to bring together a huge variety of teams from different disciplines that would respond in a disaster situation. This year SIMEX18 consisted of two exercises; both a 'national' and 'international' exercise that ran concurrently over two days. Overall there were 3000+ participants from a range of organisations and roles all working together on 18 different sites! As you can appreciate the event is one of the largest of its kind. The set-ups are designed to be as realistic as possible with collapsed buildings, damaged cars, screaming casualties and of course a Base of Operations (BoO), as well as a fully functional field hospital!

OUR NEXT STEPS

1

MARINE KIT
PURCHASES

2

EVENT KIT
ACQUISITION

3

CHARITY
SPONSORSHIP

What Have We Been Up To?

JUST GIVING



The just giving page is set up and ready to go (see bottom of page 2 for the link)

DONATIONS



Members and businesses have donated kit and equipment to the team

SRT COURSE



Trustees have been trying to source an affordable SRT course for members



The scenario chosen for this year's event was a slow-moving storm system that caused catastrophic flooding and storm surges in both the UK and a fictional country called Mas. This in turn caused damage to vital infrastructure, pollution, building collapses and of course numerous injuries and entrapments. The overall purpose of the exercise is for teams to run through a full deployment into a disaster zone. This allows multiple agencies to bring together their different disciplines to train cohesively for such an event.

Jamie and Merv were shown around the different sites by Deputy fire chief Andy Bowers and Group manager Jerry Leonard. It was a privilege for SPEAR to be able to attend as there aren't many observer places available. A lot was learnt from the day and it allowed us to observe and network with a host of other agencies and search and rescue teams. The aim is for SPEAR to take part in the exercise as a 'working' team in the future. It's given us so much to think about and something to aim for!

“It was a great chance for SPEAR to talk to and watch fellow teams operate”



Next Training Session

After our SPEAR attended SIMEX18 we've been in contact with some of the search and rescue teams we met there who are keen to do some joint training sessions with us. Currently no dates have been finalised but both of the teams we are liaising with are very well established and extremely well respected. The opportunity to train with them and have access to their training facilities is a very exciting opportunity for all of our members! We'll keep you posted on any updates and any dates to put in the calendar.

Quiz Question of the Month

Answer to April's question: If you're abseiling then a **STATIC** rope should be used. Get thinking for this month's question. Good luck! *If you have an idea for a question, email it to lhooper@spear-sar.co.uk*

Question: In USAR operations, a marking at a worksite showing a 'C' within a diamond means what?

HOW ELSE CAN YOU HELP?

Donate or fundraise for us at Just Giving:
<https://www.justgiving.com/spearsearchandrescue>

Search for SPEAR Search and Rescue on the Just Giving website to make a donation. Alternatively, you fundraise for us, just like John (a massive THANK YOU and HUGE well done for all you've raised so far!)

SPEAR SOCIALS

Instagram: [spear_sar](https://www.instagram.com/spear_sar)

Twitter.com/SPEAR_SAR

Facebook: [@SPEAR.Search.and.Rescue](https://www.facebook.com/SPEAR.Search.and.Rescue)

