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£4.40
I’m very sorry to report that DIVER Magazine has ceased publication. The magazine originated in the 1950’s, started by the then non-diving Fleet Street journalist, Bernard Eaton, to create a newsletter for the emerging BSAC.

I first came across Triton, as the magazine was then known, in 1973, when I was only nine, borrowing copies from Frank Denham, who ran the BSAC Club in Gibraltar – which I was too young to join. Today, I have a complete collection of Tritons from 1966 and a smattering of earlier copies. I treasure them and refer back to them for the age of adventure and exploration they evoke. My favourite issues are the Thunderball and Blue Water, White Death issues.

The Eatons did far more than simply publish a diving magazine. They were responsible for the Brighton Conferences from the 1960’s through the 1980’s, which showcased the best underwater film-makers and photographers in the world and brought many to the UK to delight audiences who would not otherwise have been able to see and meet them. The conferences were the inspiration for the Visions in the Sea Underwater Conferences run by my old company, Ocean Optics, in the 1990’s and 2000’s.

Left: Brian Pitkin featured on the front cover of the last Diver magazine, photographed by Linda

The Eatons also launched Underwater Conservation Year in 1975, which evolved to become the Marine Conservation Society.

I believe DIVER was the first to use an ANSTI machine to evaluate regulator performance, nearly 15 years before the EU mandated the EN250