

**PROVISIONAL CRUISE REPORT**

VESSEL: Swan Dancer

LOCATION: Scilly Isles Waverider site

PERIOD: 23.2.82 - 2.3.82 (unsuccessful trip)  
18.3.82 - 20.3.82

PERSONNEL: B M NORMAN ASO Senior Scientist  
A J MARKS SSO (1st trip only)  
E J MOORE PTO3

OBJECTIVES: To recover Wimpol's Waverider buoy No 67327-7 plus moorings,  
from Scillies site.

To deploy buoy No 67407-9 on new mooring at same site.

PROCEDURE AND METHODS: Rendezvous with Swan Dancer on Harbour wall at 1700.  
Loaded Waverider No 67407-9 and mooring components.  
Departed for site 1730.  
Arrived at Wimpol buoy approx 1730, buoy appeared to be in good condition.  
Sailed to deployment site, approx  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile WNW of Wimpol buoy.  
The heavy lower part of the mooring was lowered from the 'A' frame in stages, using extra lengths of rope. When the anchor and chain was below the surface, the weight was taken on the main rope mooring. The anchor and chain was lowered to the sea bed and a bight of the mooring rope was made fast to the Swan Dancer. The weight of Swan Dancer was then allowed to pull on the mooring in order to pull the chain straight. When the end of the rope mooring had been secured to the rubber cord, the buoy was manhandled over the side and the bight of rope released, allowing the buoy to float free.

The Wimpol buoy was brought aboard over the transom using the winch through the 'A' frame. When the rubber cord had been brought aboard, the rope part of the mooring was passed around

the winch drum. The rope mooring was hauled aboard, but when the next part of the mooring, which was chain, came to the edge of the transom, the strain proved too great and the rope parted at the point where it is joined to the chain. Subsequently, the anchor and chain was lost.

Arrived back at St Mary's 2212

**WEATHER:**

The high winds and rough seas experienced during the entirety of the first trip made it necessary to return to Taunton having not replaced the buoy.

Arrangements had to be made in order to do the job at very short notice as soon as suitable weather conditions occurred.

**EQUIPMENT**

**PERFORMANCE:**

The replacement buoy No 67407-9 is one of the larger 90 cm diameter buoys. The extra weight and size of the buoy presented no real problems provided its handling was carefully thought about before hand, and suitable preparations made.

All equipment used on board Swan Dancer worked perfectly; the crew were very helpful and obviously skilled in their work.

**ITINERARY:**

23.2.82 - 2.3.82 Unsuccessful trip.

18.3.82 0945 Received message from skipper of Swan Dancer stating that conditions were suitable.

1030 Left IOS(T).

1515 Arrived Penzance.

1600 Flew to St Mary's by Helicopter.

1700 Loaded buoy and mooring on Swan Dancer.

1730 Sailed for site.

1930 Put transmitting aerial in new buoy.

1955 Deployed new buoy.

2002 Recovered old buoy.

2011 Removed transmitting aerial from old buoy.

2025 Lost anchor and chain whilst hauling.

ITINERARY: 18.3.82 2030 Sailed for St Mary's.  
(Contd) 1012 Arrived at St Mary's Quay.  
19.3.82 Loaded container with Wimpol Waverider, mooring  
and equipment ready for loading aboard ferry.  
20.3.82 1030 Boarded ferry.  
1050 Sailed for Penzance.  
1300 Arrived Penzance.  
1430 Depart Penzance.  
1800 Arrive Taunton.

PREPARED BY: B. M. Norman B M NORMAN

APPROVED BY: A P Salkield A P SALKIELD

DATE: 2/8/82

## ABRIDGED DETAILS

### Wimpol Waverider buoy

Buoy No	67327-7
Frequency	29.725 MHz
Battery Voltages	17.2 + 17.2 Volts 25.3.82
Position	Red 13.73 Purple 67.93
Depth	100 metres MWD
Deployed	13.10.81
Calibrated	23.7.81
Sensitivity	1.8701 Hz m <sup>-1</sup>

### Waverider Buoy (replacement)

Buoy No	67047-9
Frequency	29.725 MHz
Battery Voltages	19.8 + 20.0 Volts 10.2.82
Position	Red 13.6 Purple 68.3
Depth	100 metres MWD
Deployed	18.3.82
Calibrated	20.11.80
Sensitivity	1.882 Hz m <sup>-1</sup>