

EXPLORE YOUR DEPTHS With Chris Lemons



What we offer



We currently offer three different formats to allow you, your team, or your organisation to *Explore your depths*.

Chris's **signature keynote** features a fascinating insight into the world of saturation diving, along with a first-hand account of his miraculous story supported by stunning real time video and audio of the incident. It touches on various key themes and learnings including performing under pressure, teamwork and collaboration, and resilience and overcoming adversity.

We also provide **breakaway sessions** or stand-alone **half-day workshops** for training days, conferences or in your workplace. These are co-presented and facilitated by Dr. Christine Currie Ph.D who lends an academic perspective from her expertise in the fields of collaborative learning and workforce skills development. All of our workshops are interactive and use Chris's incredible story as a springboard for discussion and group exercises and are tailored to client specific requirements and learning outcomes.

Our **management seminars** target the key decision makers within your organisation, and focus on using the learning outcomes from the incident to discuss and engage on topics including decision making, organisational behaviour and change management and agility. These sessions are also supported and facilitated by Dr. Christine Currie Ph.D.



Keynote presentations



In this breathtaking experience former deep sea diver Chris Lemons will lead you on a guided tour of the relatively unknown world of saturation diving, where those involved live within the claustrophobic confines of a decompression chamber for up to 28 days at a time, commuting daily to the sea-bed in a diving bell, and working at depths of up to 900 feet for 6 hours at a time.

Chris will then take you on an immersive journey as he guides you through the fateful day in September of 2012 when a freak computer failure on the vessel he was working under, resulted in the umbilical which provides him with breathing gas, light and heat being severed completely. He was left on the seabed, in complete darkness 300 feet below the surface, with only the 5 minutes of breathing gas he carried in the emergency tanks on his back, and no way to protect himself from the freezing temperatures. It took his heroic rescuers over 40 minutes to come back and fetch him, and his miraculous survival story has baffled experts ever since.

He is happy to tailor his address to align with your specific theme or requirements, which may include focusing on the safety aspect and lessons learned from the accident, the human and emotional elements involved, or a more generic oversight of the offshore and saturation diving world.

Chris offers an acute, honest and emotional testimony of what goes through one's mind when seemingly counting down the minutes to death, and how surprising and revealing one's response to such a situation can be.

He also tentatively explores how staring death in the face can focus one's mind on life, as well as force you to contemplate the very finite nature of our time here on earth. Chris also discusses the practical and physiological reasons which may have contributed to his miraculous survival.

He moves beyond the miracle and communicates how teamwork, preparation, training, procedures, drills and practice played a huge role in his recovery and survival, and how implementing these can benefit your sphere of work or life.

Chris is delighted to deliver his keynote either in person or online. He is also happy to engage in question and answer sessions on any of the subjects related above.

Chris has delivered his signature keynote globally to a wide variety of clients including HSBC, The Reinsurance Group of America, Cunard and Saga cruises, Shell UK, BioMarin, Purus, the Royal Society of Medicine in London, and at the Titan Summit in Toronto.

KEY THEMES

Performing under pressure

Teamwork and collaboration

Resilience and overcoming adversity.

The importance of drills and procedures

Workforce diversity

Workshops



We offer a variety of standardised or bespoke workshops which can take the form of either small group breakaway sessions, or larger half-day programmes. These workshops use Chris's incredible story as a springboard for discussions and interactive exercises and can be tailored to your organisations individual requirements, themes or learning goals.

These sessions can be preceded by a stand-alone presentation from Chris, or can have the story woven through them allowing the delegates to interact at key points during the story.

All workshops are co-presented and facilitated by Dr. Christine Currie Ph.D. who brings an academic perspective to proceedings through her expertise in collaborative learning and workforce skills development. Some examples of our workshops are shown below, but they can also be entirely customised to match you key learning outcomes or themes.

<u>Working on autopilot – The power of</u> <u>drills, practice and procedure</u>

Key Topics:

Procedures

The power of drills and practice

Checklists

<u>Tighten your teamwork –</u> Organisational behaviour and the

importance of a diverse workforce

Key Topics:

Teamwork

Culture of belonging

Human resources

The importance of a diverse <u>workforc</u>e

Organisational behaviour/culture



<u>Diving Deep – Emergency response,</u> <u>incident investigation and</u> <u>accountability</u>

Key Topics:

Emergency response

Reacting to unplanned/unconsidered events

Accountability – Company/Corporate/Personal/ Ethical/Moral

Investigating incidents

<u>Leadership under pressure –</u> <u>Decision making in a crisis</u>

Key Topics: Leadership Decision making in a crisis Maintaining the chain of command Psychology of decision making Resolving conflicts in a crisis Change management Agility

<u>Relying on resilience – How people</u> <u>react to a crisis and overcome</u> <u>adversity</u>

Key Topics:

Resilience

Mental Health

How people react in a crisis

Overcoming adversity

Communication and language



Management seminars



Our management seminars target the key decision makers within your organisation, and focus on using the learning outcomes from the incident to discuss and engage on topics including decision making, organisational behaviour and change management and agility. These sessions are also supported and facilitated by Dr. Christine Currie Ph.D. These smaller sized sessions use Chris's remarkable story to initiate discussion and learning around some of the following key themes:

- Adherence to process
- Decision making in a crisis
- Change management
- Agile thinking
- Resolving conflict
- Organisational behaviour/culture

For more information or to discuss tailoring a session for your target audience, then please contact us directly.

Speaking Topics



Leadership and Maintaining the Chain of Command

Chris can discuss how strong leadership plays a vital role in all spheres of the work he does. From a robust chain of command, right through to individual leadership whilst working on the ocean floors, Chris is able to share how clear-cut but objective governance and accountability is key to the safe and efficient running of complicated and inherently dangerous offshore subsea operations. He can also describe how this same clear minded and well-rehearsed structure of leadership played a pivotal role in saving his life, and how you can use these methods to enhance the organisational culture within your own place of work.

Crisis Management and Emergency Response

What happened to Chris is the very definition of a crisis, not only to him personally, but to his crewmates and the reputation of the company he was working for. Chris can discuss how detailed preparation, effective leadership, an effective chain of command, and proper training and drills allowed the team around him to remain calm under extreme pressure and fulfil the miraculous rescue which saved his life.

Procedures and the Power of Drills and Practice

Chris works in a world where procedures, checklists, training and drills are not just essential to the work he performs, but to the preservation of life itself. He can communicate how these are used to allow him and his colleagues to safely work and live in the dangerous environments of compression chambers and the deep sea, but also how they played an essential role in allowing his crew mates to act with the calm assurance needed to pull him back from the brink of death.

Risk

Chris is able to discuss how, despite the inherent dangers involved with working in such an extreme environment, the risks are calculated and managed to make them acceptable. Identifying hazards, dynamic risk assessments and management of change are fundamental in making what could potentially be the most dangerous job on the planet, into what is arguably the safest form of diving in the world. Chris can explain how this is implemented, and how the lessons learned can apply to your sphere of work or life.

Incident Investigation

Following Chris' life-threatening incident, which would have profound professional and personal implications for all involved had the rescue not been affected, it was essential that a far reaching and detailed investigation be conducted. Chris can recount the processes that the company went through to ensure that this was not only completed in as comprehensive manner as possible, but also in a fashion that was sensitive to the needs of those involved, as well as managing and protecting the public image of the company. This all culminated in a successful return to work just three weeks later, with the company using the incident as an industry wide learning tool and success story.

Resilience and Overcoming Adversity

The very nature of Chris' work requires a character and mindset that is resilient and attuned to overcoming adversity. The ocean floors are possibly the most inhospitable working environments that this world has to offer, and simply to commute there on a daily basis requires Chris and the team to overcome numerous obstacles of both practical and psychological nature. Chris can discuss how this resilience has been forged not only through adversity, but by fostering a culture and mentality amongst the team which allows them to problem solve quickly and calmly in difficult situations. He can also describe how this resilience enabled the team to overcome extreme pressure and the unknown to successfully carry out his rescue, and also to return to work just three weeks later, and how this same mindset of resilience can be applied to your sphere of work.

Teamwork and Workforce Diversity

Both Chris' work, and his miraculous survival, rely heavily on the strength of the teams he works within. From the three-man unit that ventures to the depths for its working days, to the hundreds of colleagues supporting that unit, above, onboard the vessel and ashore, their successes and failures are very much defined by their ability to work cohesively as a team. Saturation diving is a global enterprise that draws a broad range of characters together from a wide range of ethnic, cultural and educational backgrounds. Chris can discuss how these diverse teams are brought together to work towards their very singular goals, and how this diversity works in their favour when channelled and managed effectively. He will also relate how cohesive teamwork played a crucial role in saving his life, when the crew aboard the vessel came together to defy the overwhelming odds and extricate him from a seemingly impossible situation.

Death

Chris' extraordinary brush with death gave him an opportunity to contemplate his own, seemingly imminent, mortality. He is able to share how in accepting the inevitability of his own death in those final conscious minutes on the seabed, he was able to find a state of calm and reflect on what was most important in his life. The miracle of his subsequent survival has given him an acute sense of what death really means, and he is able reflect with audiences on how these insights are as important in life, as they were when facing death.



Who we are



Chris Lemons

Chris has been a commercial diver and Supervisor for over 18 years, and currently specialises in deep sea saturation diving, operating almost exclusively in the oil and gas industry.

This highly specialised form of diving involves living in the claustrophobic confines of a decompression chamber for up to 28 days at a time, commuting daily to the sea-bed in a diving bell, and working at depths of up to 900 feet for 6 hours at a time.

In September of 2012, a freak failure of the dynamic positioning system of the vessel he was working under, resulted in the umbilical which provides him with breathing gas, light and heat being severed completely. He was left on the seabed, in complete darkness 300 feet below the surface, with only the 5 minutes of breathing gas he carried in the emergency tanks on his back, and no way to protect himself from the freezing temperatures.

It took his heroic rescuers over 40 minutes to come back and fetch him, and his miraculous survival story has baffled experts ever since.



His extraordinary story was subsequently immortalised in the hit Netflix/BBC documentary 'Last Breath,' a version of which has been developed into a Hollywood movie starring Woody Harrelson, Simu Liu and Finn Cole and is due for release on the 28th of February 2025.

Chris was born in Edinburgh, raised in Cambridge, and now lives in the South of France with his partner and two daughters.

Dr. Christine Currie Ph.D.

Christine is a consultant with over a decade of experience in the field of workforce development and energy skills, latterly specialising in the area of energy transition. Christine has lobbied governments globally on behalf of industry by presenting evidence based data to influence the shaping of policy in support of developing an appropriately skilled workforce that is in the right place at the right time.

Christine has worked with skills bodies, government departments, academic institutions, and within industry itself.

During her working career, Christine gained a doctorate on completion of her Ph.D. thesis. Her study focussed on the role of public policy in cross-sectoral collaboration, the findings of which have been presented and published in professional and academic environments.



Christine is passionate about the wellbeing of the

industry's workforce and the future of skills in energy and she strives to promote this crucially important topic through keynote presentations, thought leadership, research, and involvement in taskforce and leadership groups. She is acutely aware that creating and maintaining an effective industry workforce is not something that can be achieved by any one party alone and she is committed to supporting open discussion and stakeholder engagement that leads to positive action.

Client testimonials



A selection of recommendations from some of our previous clients:



The Titan Summit, The Ritz Carlton Hotel, Toronto

"Chris is a remarkably powerful speaker with a tremendously valuable story. He also happens to be a genuine gentleman. Highly recommend."

Robin Sharma #1 Bestselling Author of the 5am Club



The ROYAL $\operatorname{SOCIETY} \operatorname{of}$ Medicine The Royal Society of Medicine, London

"I've had the honour of hearing Chris' story on several occasions now, each time with a fresh angle or nuance. Articulate, knowledgeable and surprisingly dispassionate (given his subject matter), he is able to spin a riveting yarn which will have the audience gripped. It's an incredible story of survival, told with genuine flair by its humble protagonist in true edge-of-your-seat style. Hear him if you dare!"

Dr. Oliver Firth MBBS, Bsc, MRCGP



"Thank you so much for speaking to the Shell Energy network this week - it was a great presentation and we've had so many comments about it being the 'event of the year'!"

Rebecca Watson - Finance Advisor at Shell



"Chris is a very friendly, down to earth and engaging speaker whose story is hard to believe. He took the audience of ~160 through the story of that fateful night in a clear manner, using clips from the Netflix documentary to emphasise the story at certain points. Prior to the event, we had discussed with Chris the themes we wanted him to focus on in his talk and he was very accommodating with this request. We received great feedback from the audience who found the talk incredibly interesting many went on to watch the Netflix documentary after."

Life reinsurer with operations around the world



OPITO, Kuala Lumpur

"Chris joined us in Kuala Lumpur for our annual conference designed to bring together OPITO's global network of training centres, industry partners and colleagues. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback on Chris' presentation and ability to translate the importance of safety training into the reallife emergency situation he experienced while diving in the North Sea back in 2012. His humble delivery, sense of humour and lived experience of the challenges of working in a remote and hazardous environment really resonated with our audience and we wouldn't hesitate to recommend him."

Alex Spencer – Director at OPITO

DEEPOCEAN DeepOcean, Norway

"In a challenging time period during the COVID-19 pandemic, DeepOcean wanted to bring in a key note speaker from our industry that had a fascinating story to tell, could draw parallels between their own experiences and the global pandemic lock-down and who could connect and resonate with our onshore and offshore communities. Boy did Chris deliver! His presentation was funny, engaging and deeply touching."

Erik Bergh - HSEQS Director at DeepOcean



"When we had a preliminary conversation and learned that Chris generally speaks for 90 minutes, we were taken aback a little bit. In this age, you have to be of good character to captivate an audience for more than 20 minutes! We envisioned a mutinous crowd ahead of us. He convinced us to give it a try and we did not regret that.

Chris is an outstanding and engaging speaker. He speaks professionally to a large (500+) corporate audience like ours. In addition, he has excellent support material (graphics, video) that makes it varied. Last but not least, the video of the dramatic events underwater gave our participants such goosebumps that they were on the edge of their seats for the entire narration, and it was quiet as a mouse.

Especially for an audience with a technical background, the technical-oriented introduction about the ups and downs of a commercial diver gives depth to the story. That information allows the story to be better understood. And those details also create the bond with the audience because they can identify with them.

Perhaps this text is still a bit cryptic, but I don't want to give away any spoilers. That is why I say: trust that this is a story you want to share with any audience because it is dramatic, incredible, and hopeful at the same time.

There are enough 'hooks' (angles) in the story to connect certain conversation themes for the participants: for example safety, cooperation, dealing with fear or ethical questions. Those themes can be further elaborated in an afterword (e.g. interview with Chris on stage) or in other forms (conversation between participants in small groups). There a link can be created to: what does this mean for me?"

Hilde Arns – TenneT Operations Offshore



"Thanks once again for your time last week. I have had really positive feedback from your sessions and also heard from many who also tuned in to watch the Netflix documentary."

Nicola Porter – Tracerco



"The most gripping and unique story I have ever heard, our audience was gobsmacked"

Grant Rawlinson - Royal Geographical Society Singapore and founder of Powerful Humans



Society of Clinical Perfusion Scientists

Our society represents an extremely specialist allied health profession. Clinical perfusionists are responsible for keeping patients alive by artificially taking over the role of the heart and lungs. We deal closely with aspects such as oxygen delivery and cerebral protection which is the reason why we invited Chris to speak at our annual congress. Chris was eloquent and engaging throughout. He had clearly researched our profession and was highly respectful to our knowledge and expertise, allowing him to tailor his presentation to make it all the more relevant to his audience. It is a truly remarkable story and Chris does an amazing job of bringing to the stage.

A Nichols. Clinical Perfusion Scientist



"We had the great pleasure of having Chris speak at our General Assembly, to which we invited all the member companies of our association. His testimony as a feedback from experience touched the audience very much. Several aspects were important to us through the conference we wanted to organize: the preparation of the interventions (to anticipate), the organization, the definition, the implementation of the means and the strength of the "collective" (shared vigilance). It is with simplicity & humility that Chris knew how to address these aspects and "captivate" the public with his story. I can only recommend him for your professional and associative seminars. Congratulations and many thanks to him!"

Maxime Lomme - MASE Hauts-de-France



Society of Scottish Anaesthetists, Aberdeen, Scotland

"Chris delivered an enthralling account of his dramatic personal experience at our recent Scottish Society of Anaesthetists Winter Meeting in Aberdeen. His story not only offered a fascinating description of the world of emersion diving but Chris was able to blend his unique experience with the core physiology which was of particular interest to our meeting attendees. Thank you!"

Dr. David Nesvadba – NHS Grampian

THE EMILY DAHL FOUNDATION The Emily Dahl Foundation, Vernon, British Columbia, Canada

"The "Last Breath" presentation by Chris Lemons should be considered as a deep inquiry into the meaning of life and a remarkable look at not only Chris's personal experience, but the precise world of saturation diving. His presentation on behalf of The Emily Dahl Foundation in Vernon, BC, Canada on November 29, 2022 profoundly shifted the way I look at my own inner world. The comments from the sold-out crowd of several hundred were all impressive. Chris took us to the depths of who we are. Chris Lemons is bold and compassionate; he brings his extensive knowledge and unique British/Scottish edge to the floor. Thank you Chris for culminating your wisdom and teachings into this extraordinary approach and expanding the work of The Emily Dahl Foundation in Vernon, BC, Canada."

Sherman Dahl, President



Axxis Resources, France

"Chris, Merci pour ta prestation, c'était captivant et tu partages ton expérience avec une humilité remarquable. Merci beaucoup!"

Cyril Calabrese - Responsible Marketing Axxis Resources France



AGR Recruitment

"We used our annual award ceremony to hear from a truly inspirational character, Chris Lemons. Chris's story and his talk on the day certainly helped to reinforce issues surrounding the need for competency and the adherence to Health and Safety.

We want to thank him for sharing his experiences and thoughts in such a meaningful manner."

Stuart Hunter. CEO, Advance Global Recruitment Ltd



Northumbria Police

"What can I say? Absolutely brilliant! I'm getting text after text after email from all who attended, who enjoyed your talk so much."

Peter Wilson - National Police Diving School, Northumbria Police



Intensive Care Society, State of the Art 2021

"I just wanted to a say a huge thanks for your time in the SOA conference. It was a fantastic session, I've had so much good feedback and only wish it could have gone on longer."

> Dr Matt Morgan Consultant in Intensive Care Medicine Adult Critical Care Lead for Research and Development

Fendercare Marine Fendercare Marine

"Chris is a truly inspirational and humble chap. His story is a shining example of triumph in the face of immense adversity and one that demonstrates the importance of training and teamwork. No one from our conference had a bad word to say and in fact wanted to hear more than what Chris fitted into his 2-hour slot."

Brett Ward Fendercare Marine



"Chris's story is absolutely breathtaking, and touches even the toughest people out there. I had been recommended to watch the documentary and really enjoyed the way that Chris was telling his side of events during a Boskalis masterclass. I knew within 10 minutes that this must be shared with more safety professionals and therefore reached out to Chris resulting in a fantastic and very engaging webinar for the IOSH offshore group. Members from around the globe joined for this live webinar and would still thank us for weeks afterwards for making the session possible."

Caroline Kannwischer, Vice Chair of the IOSH Offshore group



"Chris is a very skilled and charismatic speaker; he delivered an inspirational presentation and kept the whole audience (more than 200 people) glued to their seats for more than 2 hours. He can explain saturation diving to anyone, even to colleagues with no technical background. The presentation ended and people would still stay because they wanted to hear more from him. Everyone left the presentation amazed with him and his story"

Luciana Roda, Risk Manager with Boskalis Offshore Energy



Hyperbaric Technicians and Nurses Association, Australia

"Your presentation demonstrates the trust that we have for each other, unconditional within small teams. The courage to continue when most would simply give up, deep below the surface in an extreme environment where the inky black sea turns your thoughts inside, the passion to dare and survive is yours alone."

Karl Price, President HTNA



Society of Petroleum Engineers, Young Professionals

"In front of a packed room at Aberdeen's Union Kirk, Chris captivated the audience with his live retelling of the events that changed his life in 2012, the inspiration behind the critically acclaimed Netflix documentary, 'Last Breath'. Having previously delivered the presentation all around the world, including just recently to medical professionals in Australia, it was an honour to welcome Chris back to Aberdeen on behalf of SPE Aberdeen. Thanks to Chris Lemons for taking the time out of his busy schedule to deliver his incredible and powerful presentation and offering a unique insight into his story."

Society of Petroleum Engineers (from Linkedin)



"Chris has a gripping and emotional story that will hold your audience captive! He makes it clear his team saved his life and this was a really powerful message for our staff"

Reuben Brown, Marketing, Halco



"Chris Lemons is a dynamic speaker. He captivates the audience with his wealth of knowledge on the fascinating world of commercial saturation diving, the complexities of breathing mixed gas at depth and the incredible incident he miraculously survived in 2012. It is truly a pleasure and inspiration to hear him speak. Divers and non-divers alike will leave his talk with a thorough understanding of the subject. The History of Diving Museum highly recommends Chris, and we look forward to future collaborations in the future."

Julia Sokolow, The History of Diving Museum, Florida



The Intent Group

"Chris joined our recent meeting as a special guest keynote speaker. The audience was wrapt from the outset: his talk was fascinating, terrifying and impactful - giving an insight into a world most know little about. The talk was a highlight of the day, and will create lasting memories for our attendees. Chris works to the brief and delivers 100% - happy to recommend you to others looking to create impact at their events.Thank you, Chris!"

Ed Lawson, Director Intent Group