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London School of Diving – as seen on TV!

The BBC recently asked PADI Dive Centre, London School of Diving, to help breathe some sub aqua life into an underwater murder mystery episode of the drama series, 'New Tricks'. London School of Diving were of course more than happy to lend a helping fin, but little did they know just how deeply involved in the episode they were to become. London School of Diving manager, Michele Coral, took on the role of scuba research assistant and gave the BBC extensive advice to help them plan and organise the underwater shots. It soon became apparent that the more complicated shots involving the two leads, Amanda Redman and David Hareward, would require stunt doubles, and luckily for London School of Diving employee, Sarah Ind, her blonde hair was a good match for Amanda Redman's, so she got the part.

Amanda and David came to London School of Diving for a Discover Scuba Diving session to learn the basics of breathing underwater. This helped them to look and feel comfortable performing in the close up shots. Then it was Sarah's turn to try something new. She went off to Pinewood studios for a couple of days filming in their underwater set. Amongst other things in her underwater acting adventure, she had to rummage around in a submersed van. In her stunt double role she also went for an additional underwater shoot at a lake near Luton. Sarah says: 'My 15 minutes of fame were fabulous, and London School of Diving featured in the episode with the whole cast gathering around our purpose built pool, while our Dive Centre staff sat proudly outside in the BBC's catering bus drinking tea. All in all we had a fantastic time working with the BBC, and hopefully Michele's guidance made the episode all the more realistic and enjoyable for the avid scuba divers among us!'

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