



## Dive Club Newsletter

January 2012



Specialty of the  
**MONTH**

February - Drysuit Diver

The Specialty of the Month for February is Drysuit Diver. If you want to extend your diving season and make the most of UK diving then learning how to use a drysuit is essential. The course consists of a pool training session which will be run on either Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February (Harrogate) or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February (York) plus two open water training dives which will be completed on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February at Capernwray. The cost of the course is £120 which includes provision of all equipment and certification fee to PADI (dive site entry fees not included). You will also require the Drysuit Diver manual which is £20.

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### Red Sea Liveboards 2012

#### Trip 1 : 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Blue Voyager, Deep South

This tour offers big drop-offs overgrown with huge gorgonians and colourful soft corals. On this safari divers will have the opportunity to explore a variety of truly unique dive sites home to some very interesting and unusual reef formations. This itinerary is perfect for divers wanting to experience a slightly more 'untouched' Red Sea and is not to be missed.

#### Itinerary highlights:

**Elphinstone Reef:** A Red Sea legend. One of the most beautiful reefs, with north and south plateau's covered in hard and soft corals. This is a truly awesome reef.

**Fury Shoal:** An immense chain of reefs creating a host of outstanding dive sites including Abu Galawa in the north to Sataya in the south. Have fun exploring caves, tunnels, coral gardens, plateaus and drop offs! Abu Galawa is located within Fury Shoal - have fun exploring the wreck of 'Tug Boat'. The reef also has good coral dives on the west side.

**St. John's Reef:** Exciting drop-offs overgrown with huge gorgonians and colourful soft corals, stunning coral gardens and safe anchorages for night diving. Barracudas, Tuna and Mackerel are often sighted here and on rarer occasions Manta Rays and Dolphins. Hammerheads, Grey sharks, Silvertip Sharks and White tip Reef Sharks can often be spotted out in the blue.

**St. John's Reef North:** Located one hour north of the main St. John's area. Have fun finding your way through tunnels and around pinnacles.

**Cost:** £1219 including flights from Manchester, accommodation on board, all diving, all food and soft drinks, reef taxes, Egyptian entry visa and transfers to and from the boat.

## Trip 2: 9<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012, Blue Horizon, Northern Wrecks and Reefs

This safari allows you to take in some of the most iconic wrecks that the Red Sea has to offer as well as the stunning reefs of the area.

### Itinerary highlights:

**SS. Thistlegorm - Shaab Ali:** Probably the most famous of the Red Sea wrecks. The 129m English Freighter was bombed by German aviation on 6th October 1941. Today she creates an artificial reef on a sandy bottom at 32m max depth. She is home to an enormous variety of marine life and is especially popular with large schooling fish.

**Small Crack - Shaab Mahmoud:** This is a small split in the middle of Shaab Mahmoud's barrier. Drift along the outside wall next to beautiful corals and colourful fish. Look for a sand slope that leads you up and through the crack. When the current is right you can fly through the 5m deep channel and be thrown out across the sandy lagoon!

**Gubal Island:** At the gate of the Straits of Gubal is 'Bluff Point', which gets its name from the turbulence created by strong currents that beat the eastern wall of the island. The wreck of the 'Ulysses' lies on the reef 300m north of the lighthouse, starting at 5m and sloping to 25m. 'The Barge' wreck, south of the lighthouse, provides divers with a fun and unusual night dive. The wrecks skeleton creates protection for all types of night creatures.

**Abu Nuhas:** Also known as the 'Ships Graveyard', this reef is dangerously positioned close to the busy shipping lanes of the Gulf of Suez. This reef has claimed more ships than any other in the area. On the north side are four wrecks laying on a sandy seafloor at the bottom of a steep sloping reef layered with table corals. Wrecks here include the Ghiannis D, Carnatic, Christoula K and Lentil Wrecks. On the south side is a safe anchorage for liveaboards and two ergs, known as Yellow Fish Reef.

**Shag Rock:** This large circular reef is often overlooked but offers excellent diving on pristine coral from any location on its perimeter.

**Rosalie Moller:** Located in the straights of Gubal this is another world class wreck.

**Cost:** £1169 including flights from Manchester, accommodation on Blue Horizon, all food and soft drinks, all diving, reef taxes, Egyptian entry visa and transfers to and from boat.

For both trips you must have a minimum qualification of PADI Open Water Diver and it is recommended that you have a minimum of approximately 30 dives. For further details contact us or visit [www.blueotwo.com](http://www.blueotwo.com)

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## February Club Meeting York - Tuesday 14th February, Ten Pin Bowling

At the last York club meeting it was decided that in 2012 we would take the York club meetings out and about to different locations. So the York February club meeting will include a bit of Ten Pin Bowling. We will meet at 8pm in the bar at Tenpin, Clifton Moor York. For those who wish we can then have a game of bowling, or if you prefer you can just watch, have a beer or two in the bar and catch up on the latest news.

The Harrogate meeting will be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 8pm at the Harrogate shop, and we normally head down the Empress pub on the stray for a beer or two afterwards.

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## Harrogate Night Out, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February

We are going out for a meal to the Sukhothai restaurant on Cheltenham Parade, Harrogate on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February. For those of you who know our instructors Carol Milligan and Mel Tate, it will be one of the last weekends that they will be around before they head off to live in Australia, so this will be a chance to say farewell and wish them well on their travels. If you would like to come along contact us at the shop to book a place so we can confirm numbers with the restaurant.

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## Hard Hat and Decompression Chamber Experience – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March

We are having a club trip to Divers Training College, Appleton Roebuck to complete their Hard Hat and Decompression Chamber experience. This is a full day course during which you will get the opportunity to try out hard hat diving and be taken down to 50 meters in a decompression chamber. The cost of the course is £45 which includes lunch. If you are interested in coming along then contact Gordon on [gscott8624@aol.com](mailto:gscott8624@aol.com) or 07740 986408 for further information or to book a place as he is organising the trip for us (For those of you who don't know Gordon he is one of our instructors)

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## Harrogate Bed Race, 9<sup>th</sup> June – Can You Help

We are looking for Rescue Divers to volunteer to act as safety divers at the Harrogate Bed Race on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June. For those of you who are not familiar with the Bed Race, this is a charity event during which teams push beds around Knaresborough and end up by having to cross the river with the bed. Volunteers are required to man the river so that if anyone gets into trouble during the crossing there is someone there to give them assistance. The team of divers (it would be more accurate to say waders as although you will be in full kit you will be standing in the river) is being coordinated by our instructor John Mallett, so if you would like to volunteer please contact him direct at [john@dreadnought.uk.com](mailto:john@dreadnought.uk.com) or on 07584 437742

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## Sale – 50% off all ski and outdoor wear

We currently have 50% off all ski and outdoor wear in store. We have jackets, ski trousers, fleeces, thermals, socks, hats, gloves and scarves all with 50% off, so pop in and have a look.

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## Course Calendar

We have the following courses coming up.

**Advanced Open Water Diver:** 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February, Capernwray. If taking the drysuit Adventure Dive there will also be a pool training session on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> (Harrogate) or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February (York).

**Drysuit Diver:** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February at Capernwray with a pool training session on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February (Harrogate) or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February (York).  
Cost: £120 plus £20 for the manual

**Enriched Air Diver:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 10am at the York shop  
Cost: £75 plus £49.99 for the Enriched Air course materials

**Rescue Diver:**

<b>Harrogate:</b>	Theory session: Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> February, 1pm Pool training sessions, start Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February, 7.45-9.30pm for five weeks. Theory session: Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> March, 1pm Open Water training: Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> March at Ellerton Park
<b>York:</b>	Theory session followed by pool training session, 6.30-9.30pm, starting Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February for five weeks. Open Water training: Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> March at Ellerton Park

If you do not have a current first aid/CPR qualification you will also need to complete the Emergency First Response Course. See below for dates.

Cost: £349 including EFR or £299 if you already have a current CPR/First Aid qualification. You will also require the Rescue Diver manual (£29.99), the EFR manual (£10) and a pocket mask (£9.95)

**Emergency First Response:**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 10am at the York shop. This is also an EFR Refresher, so if your EFR qualification has expired come along and refresh your skills

Cost: £70 plus £10 for manual (if required). If doing in conjunction with your Rescue Diver course the price is included with your Rescue Course (see above)

**PADI Seal Team:**

PADI Seals is a great introduction to children from 8 years old to the world of scuba diving. The initial course runs for five weeks, starting on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the York Pool, 8-9.30pm. At the end of the course your child will become a Seal Team Member and receive a certification card from PADI. They are then eligible to continue on to the Master Seal Team course.

Cost: £20 per session plus the Seal Team Crew Pack - £39.99

If you are interested in completing any of these courses contact the shop for further details. If you wish to complete a course that is not listed above get in touch and we will schedule a date for you.

**Club Trips**

We have a variety of UK trips booked for 2012. All trips are open to club members only. In order to book your place we require a 50% deposit at time of booking (cash or cheque to "Overland Underwater Dive Club" only) with the balance being due six weeks prior to the trip. Places can be booked by phone / e-mail and will be held for 7 days from date of booking. If payment has not been received after 7 days the place will be re-offered. If the trip is cancelled due to bad weather you will receive a full refund. If you have to cancel your place for personal reasons you will only receive a refund if someone can be found to take your place. If you do not have your own dive kit, equipment can be hired for all trips. All UK boat dives are suitable for divers of Advanced Open Water Diver qualification or above with some experience of UK diving.

Date	Details	Cost
19 <sup>th</sup> February	Capernwray	Entrance fee to site
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Capernwray	Entrance fee to site
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Capernwray	Entrance fee to site
18 <sup>th</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Egyptian Liveaboard - Deep South on Blue Voyager with Blue O Two. Includes flights from Manchester, all diving, accommodation and all food on board, soft drinks, reef taxes and entry visa.	£1219
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Capernwray	Entrance fee to site
23 <sup>rd</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Farne Islands - Hard boat diving with Farne Diving Services, 2 dives per day. As the boat stays out between dives two cylinders will be required. We can also arrange B&B at Farne Diving Services if required.	Boat - £80 (TBC)

7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>St Abbs</b> - Hard boat diving with Billy Aitchison on Wavedancer. The boat is now moored at Eyemouth and Billy is now running the weekends so that we will do two dives on Saturday afternoon and two dives on Sunday morning, staying out between dives (so 2 cylinders required). This means that you can travel up Saturday morning and will be finished by Sunday lunchtime, so save on B&B costs.	Boat: £65
15 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Capernwray</b>	Entrance fee to site
18 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Farne Islands</b> - Hard boat diving with Farne Diving Services, 2 dives per day. We can also arrange B&B at Farne Diving Services if required.	TBC
26 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Capernwray</b>	Entrance fee to site
1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	<b>Plymouth</b> Hard boat diving from Plymouth, including the famous wreck of the Scylla. Package includes B+B accommodation on Friday and Saturday night plus two days boat diving. If there is enough interest then a further days diving can be arranged on the Monday at a reduced rate and they are offering extra nights B&B at £25 per person.	£160 including 2 nights B&B and two days hard boat diving.
8 <sup>th</sup> / 9 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>St Abbs</b> - Hard boat diving with Billy Aitchison on Wavedancer. The boat is now moored at Eyemouth and Billy is now running the weekends so that we will do two dives on Saturday afternoon and two dives on Sunday morning, staying out between dives (so 2 cylinders required). This means that you can travel up Saturday morning and will be finished by Sunday lunchtime, so save on B&B costs.	Boat - £65
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	<b>Capernwray</b>	Entrance fee to site
13 <sup>th</sup> / 14 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Farne Islands</b> - Hard boat diving with Farne Diving Services, 2 dives per day. We can also arrange B&B at Farne Diving Services if required.	Boat - £80 (TBC)
28 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Capernwray</b>	Entrance fee to site
9 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Wrecks and Reefs Liveaboard</b> , Northern Red Sea, on Blue Horizon with Blue O Two. Includes flights from Manchester, all diving, accommodation and all food on board, soft drinks, reef taxes and entry visa	£1169

## Discounted Dive / Holiday Insurance

You can now purchase discounted dive and holiday insurance with Divemaster direct from our website. Go to [www.overlandunderwater.com](http://www.overlandunderwater.com) and scroll down to the bottom of the homepage, then just click the Divemaster Insurance banner for discounted insurance. They do single trip and annual policies as well as dive equipment cover. As a specialist diving insurance company you will find their policies are tailored to the travelling diver and do not have any of the restrictions that some of the standard holiday insurance policies do. It is vital that you are properly insured when diving abroad just in case the worst does happen and you need medical assistance.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Kit For Sale

We have quite a few people selling 2<sup>nd</sup> hand equipment this month. All kit can be viewed at the York shop (or Harrogate by prior arrangement):

## BCDs

Sherwood Luna Ladies weight integrated BCD, size XS, hardly used:	£100
Sequest Diva QD Ladies weight integrated BCD, size XS, hardly used	£100
Oceanic Probe Bioflex weight integrated BCD, size XS, hardly used	£120
Mares integrated weight BCD, large, hardly used	£175
Scubapro Glide Star, small	

## Regulators:

Tigulio Airtrack 1 <sup>st</sup> stage, 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage and octopus	£150
Scubapro Mk 16, R380 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage and octopus	£150
Dacor 1 <sup>st</sup> stage, 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage and octopus	£150

## Drysuits:

Northern diver membrane suit, mens size XLR, 11 boots, good condition	£175
Ladies Otter Britannic Drysuit with undersuit, good condition	TBC
Typhoon TRX drysuit, mens Large, has done one dive only	TBC
Hydrotech dry suit, size 5' 11" medium build, size 10 feet, good condition	£120

## Accessories:

Scubapro Twin Jet Max open heel split fins, yellow, small, excellent condition	£40
Seac Sub open heel fins, black, Large/Extra large	£20
Mares Avanti Quattro open heel fins, regular, green	£20
Mares Avanti Quattro open heel fins, small, blue, as new, still in bag	£50
Seac Sub Wheeled Dive Bag with telescopic handle, as new	£60
Body Glove Wheeled Dive bag, good condition	£30
Assorted Reg Bags	£5
Princeton tech 400 rechargeable torch	£40
C4 torch with wrist lanyard	£25
Divers mini reel	£15
Assorted gloves, hoods, boots, size small	

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## February Club Meetings

Come along to either our York or Harrogate Club meetings, catch up with fellow club members and find out what's going on.

Next Club meetings are:

York: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, meeting at 8pm in the bar at Tenpin, Clifton Moor.

Harrogate: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, Harrogate, 8pm at the Harrogate shop. Following the meeting we normally head down the Empress for a beer or two and a catch up.

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## Contact Details

**York:** 201 Acomb Road  
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**Harrogate:** 8 Knaresborough Road  
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