



Scuba Trust 20th Year

For those who didn't know, the idea of the Scuba Trust was conceived in 1996 at the London Dive show by a few like-minded divers, all of which had some type of disability. They were Liam Golding, Brenda Carey, Ricky Singh and Phil Smith. Later in 1996 the Scuba Trust was formed and registered as a charity. Thanks to these founding members we have this great charity 20 years on.

Summer 2016

Well it's been a very busy year so far and looking at the calendar it is looking as busy right up to Christmas.

Summer Fun and Fundraiser

We are holding a fund raising event for the Scuba Trust at St Albans SAC thanks to Lisa Shafe and her team. It will be held on Saturday 10th September and will be an all-day event. The day's events will include a photo competition (subjects to be confirmed) judged by a well-known diving personality. An underwater three legged race, a coconut shy using snorkels and water and a build a ladder from pipes underwater. Various other underwater and dry land games are still in the planning but promise to be good fun.

Certifications

Congratulations to Dee Coffey, Liam Coffey and Jackie Buchanan on completing their Deep Diver specialty, and Dale Robson completing his Advanced Open Water whilst we were away in the sunny Red Sea.

Liam Coffey and Adam Quarterman completed their Drysuit specialty at Vobster Quay. A balmy 3 degrees, snow, hail along with a sprinkling of sunshine.

Adam unfortunately managed to spend the next two days in the chamber with Oli Firth at the London Dive Chamber with a suspected DCS, due to a little bit of a fast ascent and a free flowing/frozen reg,. Glad to say he is fully recovered and



raring to get back in the water. Our thanks to London Dive Chamber for all their expertise and help looking after Adam.

Holiday to Hurghada

If you follow the Scuba Trust Facebook and Twitter pages you will have seen a lot of the photo's posted of the fantastic time the group, here's the full story.



Su and Mik Sparrys A to Z of their first Scuba Trust holiday to Hurghada, Egypt.
May 2016

For those that were not with us, I will leave the references to your imagination, those who were on the trip keep smiling.

Starring :- Frank, Jackie, Dee, Liam, Dale, Nicole, Neil, Mac, Ron, Annie, Eric, Howard, Ian, Simon, James, Mik & Su.

Annie congratulations on completing your 250th dive.
Airport fun in Egypt on the way home security checks very thorough.

Bubbles (I'm forever blowing bubbles), Blue spotted rays.



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Diving with Disabilities



Cake, for breakfast, lunch and dinner (result).

Dolphins (2nd day).

Erk Issa, dive site 4th day.

Family (wonderful people from the Scuba Trust).



Gota Abu Ramada, dive site 2nd day.

Holiday fun in the sun.

Instructors - Reda Red Sea Divers.

Jellyfish, Jellyfish Jellyfish (everyday).

Kite flying from the sun deck.

Liam, Dee, Jackie, Dale congratulations on completing/passing your courses.



Mövenpick Resort, friendly staff, lovely food, ice creams.

Napoleon Wrasse, Moray Eel - Navigation - Mr Buchanan needs a new compass.

“Over-here” see above.

Peppered Moray Eel.

Questions, questions !!

Russian Bikini Fish (Mac) lol.

Sergeant Major fish, Sinking Kit there it was, then it wasn't (Simon).



Turft El Shaheil, Dive site 5th day.
Underwater walking amazing.

Videos by Liam, thank-you brilliant.

Wonderful Weather 50°C + scorchy
Weight, too many not enough or just forgotten Liam & Ian ??

Xcellent, Xciting Xtreme sport.

Yummy last supper at the Italian restaurant.

Zimmer frame, we forgot that !! (oops)

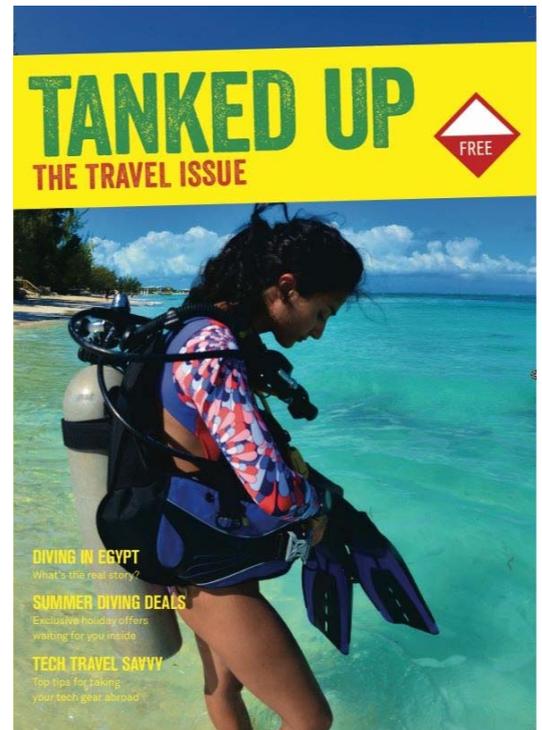
Increased Egyptian security at Hurghada

Just a note on the continuing story of security at Egyptian airports. As we entered Hurghada airport there was the usual scanning of bags to get in to the building. Through passport control and more security checks just to get to the check-in. Once our bags were deposited and passports checked yet more security and searches to get into the departure lounges. When the flight was due to board yet more security checked which included random strip searches plus no devices which held batteries in your hand luggage, these were confiscated, which included cameras!



Tanked Up

For those of you that are unaware The London Diving Chamber and Midlands Diving Chamber produce a magazine entitled Tanked Up. It is distributed free at the dive shows and the Dive Lectures. This issue has Suzanne Harper's account of the Scuba Trust's trip to Cozumel last year. Well done Suzanne a great piece and some brilliant photo's. Tanked up is an excellent and enlightening read full of interesting articles. We have a few copies available at the pool sessions.



Birmingham Dive Show 22-23 October

Our thanks once again to Laura Greene for organising this year's show. For those of you who haven't been involved with the shows Laura puts a lot of time and effort into organising our fund raising events at the two dive shows. The planning normally starts six to nine months prior to each show. So while the Scuba Trust members are shaking their buckets at this year's events spare a thought for Laura who will already be organising the next event. We hope to get the raffle tickets out to members well before the show so if you can sell a few books to friends and family before the event we should be able to make this year's show





fund raising even better.

October 2016

Apologies for the long delay but due to the problems flying to Sharm it has caused a few headaches with destinations.

Anyhow Declan and the Team at Sportif have come up with what appears to be an absolutely perfect option. We are off to Oman.

Flights: Turkish Airlines (30kg baggage allowance)

10Oct16 Gatwick/Istanbul 1005/1600 hrs

10Oct16 Istanbul/Muscat 1835/0025 hrs

17Oct16 Muscat/Istanbul 0120/0530 hrs

17Oct16 Istanbul/Gatwick 0700/0905 hrs

7 nights Sifawy Boutique Hotel in standard twin room Half Board

<http://sifawyhotel.com/>

5 days (10 dives) boat dive pack tank/weights with Extra Divers

https://www.extradivers-worldwide.com/en/dive-center/country/oman/dive-center-extra-divers-sifah_501.html

Roundtrip Muscat Airport transfers

Price: £1,195 per person in twin room

Single room supplement £299

Oman Dive Permit OMR 4 (£7.50) per day per person pay locally

A deposit of £250 pp secures your place



2017 Holidays

We are in the process of organising two holidays for next year. First is to Cozumel, Mexico in June 2017. A group from the Scuba Trust went there two years ago and all who went expressed their wishes to return, so this is one not to be missed. It is on a first come basis and places are limited so don't miss the boat! (Sorry).

Next is October 2017. This is a first for many of us in the Scuba Trust. We have chartered a Liveaboard with Blue-0-Two. We have four disabled cabins available so if you need wheelchair access don't be slow on booking your place. We can take a max of 26 and there has been a lot of interest so make up your mind quickly.

We need names by the end of June 2016, this will ensure that we secure the booking with Blue-0-Two.

Full details below.

Start your Red Sea adventure today...

Itinerary: [Northern Wrecks & Reefs](#)

Dates: 29th September - 6th October 2017

Aboard: M/Y blue Horizon

The Vessel...

Built by blue o two in 2006, award winning M/Y blue Horizon is our flagship vessel and the benchmark for all other blue o two vessels to follow her. With a contemporary and stylish feel, M/Y blue Horizon takes liveaboard luxury to a whole new level and is truly deserving of the title 'Liveaboard of the Year' awarded by DIVE and





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DIVER magazine in their recent industry awards.

The Itinerary...

This safari allows you to take in some of the most iconic wrecks that the Red Sea has to offer. An ideal itinerary for those new to SCUBA diving or the Red Sea, allowing you to experience world famous wrecks and pristine reefs.

Sample Itinerary...

****PLEASE NOTE**** the itinerary below is just an example of the route taken and the order and dive sites are not guaranteed. All dives sites are subject to weather conditions and the final route taken is at the absolute discretion of the captain and dive guides.

Day 1 - Start the week with a check dive before heading north for an afternoon and night dive.
Days 2-5 - Spend four days cruising the northern Red Sea. Normally you will have the opportunity to make three day dives and a night dive each day. The exact itinerary and order of dive sites will vary depending on the conditions but you can expect to visit plenty of wrecks including Thistlegorm, Dunraven, Giannis D, Carnatic and potentially even more. There is also some fantastic reef diving including the Ras Mohamed marine park, Danaba (Shag Rock), Sha'ab El Erg (famous for dolphin encounters) and the Island of Gobal.
Day 6 - Enjoy two relaxed morning dives close to Hurghada allowing you to cruise into harbour in the early afternoon. Take advantage of an evening onshore to purchase souvenirs and





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Diving with Disabilities

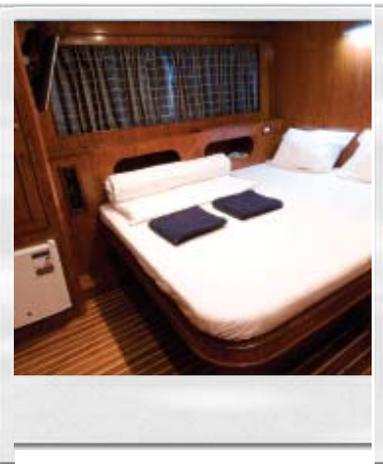


enjoy Egypt's famous hospitality before your journey home the next day.

Itinerary Highlights...

S.S. 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, Tile 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.

All dive sites are subject to weather conditions and cannot be guaranteed.

£1199 per person + £21 Visa

Includes: Return flights from LGW - HRG, transfers from/to airport in Hurghada, 7 nights full board accommodation, tea/coffee/water/soft drinks, snacks, 6 days diving, 12lt cylinder and weights.

Book Now!

Please contact Frank Buchanan at Scuba Trust email scubatrust@hotmail.co.uk for more information or to book on this iconic Red Sea safari!



Volunteers Needed

Thanks to Michael Apps and Dale Robson who now look after the van and kit. We will be emptying the van out on 26th June (venue to be decided), and once again carrying out a complete inventory of all kit. If you can spare a few hours to help out it would be much appreciated and you'll be rewarded with eats afterwards. (I won't say bbq as it always rains if I do!).

EFR Course 31st July

We will be holding an EFR course on the 31st July 2016 at Heathfield School in Ascot. If you are going on to do, or doing, your Rescue course you require EFR for certification. Speak to Frank, Nik or one of the instructors.

PADI Courses

At present we are running Dive Master Courses, Rescue diver courses, Junior Open water course, Open water courses and various specialty course. If you would like to complete:- an underwater photography course, Advanced Open Water, DM or AI course or any other specialty course speak to Nik, Frank or one of our Instructors.

Facebook & Twitter

A big thank you to everyone who post on our Twitter and Facebook pages, to Pippa Ashley who monitors Facebook for us and to Suzanne Harper who looks after our Twitter account. (I still don't get it)



Regalia

We now carry a stock of Scuba Trust Hoodies in Navy Blue £16.99 and Polo Shirts (Navy, Maroon & White) in a range of sizes - £14.99 each. All items have the Scuba Trust logo individually embroidered on them. These can be purchased at any pool session or we can post at additional cost.

Hoodies



Polo shirts





Try-Dive pool sessions

A few polite reminders -

Please remember that pool sessions start at 12.30pm and finish at 2.30pm prompt (unless otherwise stated), and we have to be out of the pool by 2.30pm as there is often a group following on.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school grounds. This is not our policy but the schools and must be adhered to. If you wish to smoke you must leave the school grounds.

Also it would be appreciated if kit you are using was broken down and returned to the van. If you are teaching it is good practice for students to carry this out as part of their course and everyone's help is appreciated in clearing up.

If during a pool session you notice a problem with any piece of Scuba Trust kit, please attach a completed **RED** tag and place the faulty item on the seat in the front of the van. This will greatly assist us in keeping all kit in a serviceable condition.

Spreading the message

Many of the instructors are now able to teach a full range of PADI, BSAC, DE and DDI courses so we are able to spread the enjoyment of diving further.

Do you know of any organisations that would benefit from hearing about Scuba Trust, and how regardless of the disability, diving is an accessible activity? Please contact any of the Trustees who will be happy to help.