



Newsletter - March 2010

Hi All,

Well Feb was a bit topsy turvy weather wise. Still there was so much diver training Steve took a week just to dry out. March looks just as busy with sales and courses a plenty. The highlight will be the wreck speciality with the last 2 dives on the F69. If there are any specialty courses you would like to do please let me know as this will help planning. There are still some T-shirts from the Napier trip here as well. If you ordered one and have not picked it up please get in touch. 😊

Upcoming Courses...

Discover Scuba: Fortnightly, Wednesdays, 6.45pm at Freyberg Pool...call us to book you or your friends in. Cost is just \$10 plus your pool entry fee. Remember...it's **not just for newbies**...if you're already a qualified diver you're more than welcome to come along and practice your skills. Just give us a call and let us know you'll be there.

Open Water: anytime Confined Water Training Wednesday at Freyberg Pool. Open Water training Thursday evenings and weekends. Give us a call for more info or if you'd like to arrange other days for training.

We can do midweek days if you want your weekends free. We also offer one-to-one training if that is more your thing.

Advanced Open Water: March 6th and 7th. 5 fun dives and no exams! Build up your confidence in the water, fine tune your old skills and learn plenty of new ones in the PADI Advanced Open Water Diver Course. Times are flexible and we're always keen for a dive so get in touch to become an Advanced Open Water Diver.

PADI Rescue Diver March 13th-14th. This one is just for the Ladies. I have been asked to organise a PADI rescue dive course just for the ladies - and here it is! Sorry guys - next time aye. Learn self and buddy rescue skills with a like minded group. Become the diver that every one wants to dive with. Become a PADI Rescue diver! The course requires that you have a current first aid certificate so if you don't already have one, we can sort that out too through an Emergency First Responder course (3 hours; \$170)

***Of course The Dive Guys realise that, unlike those of us that work in the dive industry, some of you have real jobs and need a bit of flexibility with course timetables. We are more than happy to accommodate you on this...just ask!**

Dive Trips/Specialty courses...

For more details on any of our dive trips check out
In Water Adventures (IWA) on our website...

All trips are subject to dive conditions on the day. All deposits are transferable but non-refundable. If you think you'll need to hire gear please let us know in advance so we can accommodate you as we may have courses running simultaneously.

Specialty course: Wreck F69/Yung Penn



Cost: \$420

Date: March 17th (theory), 20th and 21st (diving!)

Two dives on The Yung Penn (shore dives), and two dives on the F69 (boat dives). This option gives you the chance to look at two different wrecks for a great price.



COOL STUFF DOWN THERE: Nudibranchs



Jason's Mirabilis on the F69 Archidoris wellingtoniensis and Aphelodoris luctuosa in Island Bay

The bottom-dwelling, jelly-bodied nudibranch might seem an unlikely canvas for Mother Nature to express her wildest indulgences of color and form. But these shell-less mollusks, part of the sea slug family, bear some of the most fascinating shapes, sumptuous hues, and intricate patterns of any animal on Earth.

There are more than 3,000 known species of nudibranch, and new ones are being identified almost daily. They are found throughout the world's

oceans, but are most abundant in shallow, tropical waters. Their scientific name, Nudibranchia, means naked gills, and describes the feathery gills and horns that most wear on their backs.

Generally oblong in shape, nudibranchs can be thick or flattened, long or short, ornately colored or drab to match their surroundings. They can grow as small as 0.25 inches (6 millimeters) or as large as 12 inches (31 centimeters) long.

They are carnivores that slowly ply their range grazing on algae, sponges, anemones, corals, barnacles, and even other nudibranchs. To identify prey, they have two highly sensitive tentacles, called rhinophores, located on top of their heads. Nudibranchs derive their coloring from the food they eat, which helps in camouflage, and some even retain the foul-tasting poisons of their prey and secrete them as a defense against predators.

Nudibranchs are simultaneous hermaphrodites, and can mate with any other mature member of their species. Their lifespan varies widely, with some living less than a month, and others living up to one year.

Taken from National Geographic.com

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/nudibranch.html>

Photos by Stephen Journeé, The Dive Guys

SUPPLIER SALE

10% OFF “THE H2O COMPLETE DIVE SYSTEM” PACKAGES SAVING YOU OVER \$300



THE DIVE GUYS' GEAR SUPPLIERS ARE HAVING A SALE - SO WE DECIDED TO PASS THE SAVINGS ON TO YOU!



NOW IS THE TIME TO UPGRADE OLD GEAR OR GET YOURSELF FULLY KITTED OUT AND ENJOY HASSLE FREE DIVING



SAVE 10% ON ALL H2O DIVE PACKAGES, BCD's, REGULATORS, GAUGES, WETSUITS and FINS DON'T FORGET FINANCE IS AVAILABLE. EMAIL info@thediveguys.co.nz, OR SEE IN STORE TO FIND OUT MORE

Offer ends 10th March 2010 All purchases subject to a minimum 50% deposit at the time of ordering, no lay-bys. Discounts only available on listed H2O Dive packages and other products from the supplier.

More Special Offers!

• Camera Stuff

INTOVA CP8 digital camera



The sports person's solution to digital photography. 8 Mega Pixel Waterproof Camera. Waterproof to 40m with housing (included), shock resistant, video and still shot capability.

Available in store now for only **\$299.95**

+ buy it this month and get a PADI digital underwater photography speciality course for half price.

General Chit-Chat...

- ❖ Firstly a big **SEE YA!** to Sarah. As a founding member of The Dive Guys she has been the rock I sometimes trip over and stub my toe on. She has been the island you never want to get shipwrecked on...ha ha ha. On a serious note, Sarah has decided to take a step back from the front line management and to do some contract work for The Dive Guys, as well as look after her dogs and write a book!?. So as much as I have tried to, we have not got rid of her completely.
- ❖ Also congrats to Briar and Rose, Yinji Cao, Ye Zhu, Danny and Menthi for completing their PADI Open Water course.
- ❖ Liam started his AOW in Kau Bay with the deep dive. Conditions were the Kau Bay norm, so a good introduction to inner harbour diving.
- ❖ Stephen's toy...the cool Olympus camera is going great - thanks for asking. When he figures out how to use it we may see some good shots. He is still obsessed with taking the perfect Nudibranch photo...check out our Flickr photo

pages at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/38524268n04/> for his progress.

- ❖ We want to run a few specialty courses from now through to winter. If there is anything you mad keen to do or are going for the PADI Master Scuba Diver rating, let us know and we will arrange it.
- ❖ And finally, we seem to have built up a supply of mask cases. If you want one to put a mask or anything else (like your lunch) in, come in and see us. They will cost you a gold coin - all proceeds going to project AWARE.

HAPPY DIVING

