

SCUBA News

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Welcome to *SCUBA News*. If you haven't yet booked your holiday travel insurance then see our suggestions for [specialist diving insurance](#) with 5% off.

You can [download a pdf version](#) of the newsletter [here](#).



Visit Dive Funatics

for Personal Dive Service in the coral triangle at
Cebu in The Philippines
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What's New at SCUBA Travel?



Diving Portugal

As well as the diving around mainland Portugal, there is also splendid diving in the Azores and Madeira archipelagos which sit way out in the Atlantic.

[Read More](#)



Crossover Qualification

There are many different bodies around the world which award diving qualifications and we've updated our table giving a rough guide to equivalent qualifications.

[Read More](#)



Diving Honduras

The best diving in Honduras is in the Bay Islands. These comprise Roatan, Utila and Guanaja which are part of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef. Of these, Utila has the better diving, and has the added advantage of being cheaper than Roatan. April and May are a good time to dive the Bay Islands, when the weather is warm and dry.

[Read More](#)

Letters

In Reply to Last Month's Letter on Diving with Dyslexia

Several questions this month: please contact news@scubatravel.co.uk with your answers and opinions.

NVQ in Diving?

Good Day,

I have an HSE1 and a C.S.W.I.P 3.2U (now expired), and I wanted to know if there's a NVQ level for either. I contacted TWI but they don't know. I want to study and it would be most helpful to have a NVQ credit.

Justin Ryan

National Dive League

Hi,

I have an advanced open water with National Dive League. Is it worth me doing a PADI Open Water advanced?

Carmel

CMAS or PADI?

Dear sir,

Could you please tell me which of CMAS or PADI certificates is more valid(reputable)?

Faramarz Navi

In Reply to Last Month's Letter on Diving with Dyslexia

Hi,

As a instructor with dyslexia I find I'm warmed to my student that also have dyslexia and find I have personally found away to understand and remember dive theory, this also works well with my student because I can teach theory in a way that help dyslexia suffers. So I would say you are right by saying there should find a dive center that is acceptant to slower learners but also would say it's much more about the instructor also. If they can find the right dive shop with the right instructor then there would be a very good chance to help his daughter, providing the center give the instructor the time needed and offers one on one. At the end of the day teaching should be about giving not taking.

Jeremy Blake (padi mi instructor)

AquaCreed Scuba

Sri Lanka

Creature of the Month: Orange Peel Nudibranch

by Rick Rogers

The Orange-Peel Nudibranch (*Tochuina tetraquetra*) is the largest nudibranch in the world, growing to 50 cm or 18 inches!. You can find them from Siberia to Alaska and down to California. The one in the photo was about 15-20 cm long, and was just inches from my wide angle dome. And they're supposedly edible.



Orange Peel Nudibranch which grows to a massive 50 cm

The delicate looking lace-like margin comprises its gill tufts and you can also see the

two "antennae-like" rhinophores (scent receptors).

It feeds on hydroids, sea pens and soft corals. Depending on what it eats, the colour changes from a pale yellow-orange to a deep red-orange.

Photographed in the Browning Pass of British Columbia. I tried to light it up in order to accentuate the surface texture.

Animalia (Kingdom) > Mollusca (Phylum) > Gastropoda (Class) > Opisthobranchia (Subclass) > Nudibranchia (Order)

By Rick Rogers, [DiverTreck](#)

Diving News From Around the World

Our round up of the more interesting underwater news stories of the past month. For breaking news see our [Twitter page](#) or [RSS feed](#)



IUCN Oceans Photographer of the Year 2016 Contest now Open

Photographers are invited to submit up to three photos in six categories, including marine life, destinations, human impact and marine conservation.



Major seafood brands linked to fishing in fragile Arctic area

Greenpeace finds suppliers of cod to Birds Eye, Findus and Young's are using controversial bottom trawlers in the northern Barents Sea.



Get Your FREE Good Fish Guide

Get the most up to date sustainable seafood advice in the palm of your hand with the Marine Conservation Society's Good Fish Guide



Underwater Robots Make Independent Decisions

Submarine robots can act independently: finding and following squid.

New maps reduce threats to whales and dolphins

Cetaceans are protected worldwide but vulnerable to incidental harm from an



expanding array of human activities at sea. Managing potential hazards to these highly-mobile populations increasingly requires a detailed understanding of their seasonal distributions and habitats.



The World's Largest Whale Sharks Are Disappearing

Where are they going?



Never-before-seen life spotted by Hawaiian deep-sea expedition

In general, the deeper you go in the ocean, the fewer living organisms you find. But during a 4000-metre-deep dive this month, shipboard scientists came across a large aggregation of corals and sponges plus a deep sea shark.



GPS signal used for sat-navs could improve knowledge of ocean currents

For the first time sea level has been mapped from space with GPS reflections. The information could help monitor ocean currents by measuring the slopes currents cause in the ocean's surface.

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