

ULSAC Trip Report Form

Please include on this form any details you think will help organise another trip to this area. Please include details of any problems encountered, or any particularly good things/places in the area, such as good or awful restaurants and pubs.

Date	22 nd September 2007
Venue	Newhaven
Marshal	Michael FitzPatrick
Overseer	Nathan Long
Number of People	10
Accommodation Address Telephone Number Cost per night/per tent/per person or as appropriate Notes	None – left London 7am, returned 10.30pm
Launch Site	<p>Hardboat diving from Newhaven Marina with the 'Mistress' http://www.the-mistress.co.uk/ Skipper: Ray Leriche Tel: 01444 451093 Mob: 07973 498078 E-mail: RATMO@aol.com</p> <p>Ray accepts 10 divers on his boat, which is based in Newhaven and can reach most wrecks on the Sussex Coast when requested. Getting on the boat via side ladder (no lift). No compressor on board. Coffee and tea offered on board.</p> <p>The boat was not very big, but by coordinating between us, there was easily enough space to kit up. Toilet facility on board, and place to stow dry gear but NO wet gear allowed in wheel house.</p> <p>Ray has a crew member who dives and who can put the shot on the shallower part of the wreck if required. The skipper gave a safety briefing before the dive. Following Ernst's trip on this boat earlier in the season, we agreed to keep one O2 kit on deck, with one in the storage below deck (which would take a couple of minutes to access. He also has O2 on board.</p>
(incl cost & nearest coastguard)	<p>£37 per day per diver to dive with 'The Mistress';</p> <p>RIB launching sites are in Brighton and further East (nr Hastings). There is also a RIB launching site in Newhaven.</p> <p>One dive RIB was operating from Newhaven. I assume that the other RIBs on the City of Waterford (see below) were launched from Brighton.</p>

	<p>Many wrecks on the Sussex coast should be within reach of our RIBs but launching facilities and costs need to be further explored.</p>
<p>Air Shop</p>	<p>Newhaven Scuba Centre</p> <p>Not cheap. £4 for 15l, £3.50 for 12L and single 7, £2.50 for a 3L pony. People agreed to stay open until we arrived. Location is close to Newhaven Marina thus very convenient. The owner lives nearby, and you can ask her for her mobile number and she may be able to come down to fill cylinders after the day's diving.</p> <p>Mini supermarket next door for food buying etc There was a pub very close across from the air shop where food was (normally) available. There are also public toilets opposite the air shop.</p>
<p>Van Hire (incl notes, did you breakdown, aa cover, tow bar, etc)</p>	<p>Used ULU MPV, and Bonnie and Al's car for transport.</p>

Dive 1	
Site:	Blanefield, off Newhaven.
Max depth:	32m to seabed
GPS Marks:	Position: 50 41 11N; 00 08 24W (source: skipper)
Brief description:	3,400 ton steamer sunk in 1906. 104x14metres. The site was shot by Ray's assistant exactly on the wreck. The wreck is standing upright, partly broken, but much is still well preserved. The visibility was very good – 10-15metres. There is a fine propeller and a mast of some description at the stern. There was a good amount of life of the wreck, with lots of fish in the wreckage, as well as tom-pot blennies, a massive lobster and a conger, that I sadly missed. There were no other divers on the site, and no fishermen. It is silty on the bottom and on some of the wreck, so I would think that the vis would sometimes be pretty poor though.

Dive 2	
Site:	Gullies near Seaford
Max depth:	9-12m
GPS Marks:	? Just South of Seaford Beach
Brief description:	Drift dive. Visibility was very bad – 1-2m. Opinion was rather divided: some people liked it very much but others thought it was pointless and surfaced after 10 minutes (myself). Lots of starfish.
	There are lots of other excellent sounding wrecks in the area, and it would be possible to dive these if the slack windows allowed. An slacks at 10 and 4 for instance would allow 2 good wreck dives if we camped down there the night before. One to plan well in advance!

General Details
Thanks Vicky for Ray's details, Nathan for all his help overseeing, and Bonnie and Al for some excellent driving!

Please return completed forms to the Diving Officer asap