



and their behaviour and what constitutes a dangerous shark.

"The course gives you good information on how to behave in the water if you ever come across one. The tank at Deep Sea World holds the biggest concentration of sea-life I have ever dived with."

This Shark Awareness course is recommended to all shark enthusiasts looking for a new experience on their doorstep. Deep Sea World also offers dive clubs the chance to dive with the sharks with the introduction of the dive night programme. This opportunity is only open to qualified divers. Divers may bring all their own equipment or they can also hire it from Deep Sea World. The dive lasts 40 minutes and includes full exploration of the main tank. Divers can also bring their friends along to watch.

Shark dives at Deep Sea World follow the guidelines set by PADI. Deep Sea World is in North Queensferry which is located just over the Forth Rail Bridge, only 20 minutes from Edinburgh. For more information and prices please visit: www.deepseaworld.com or call Grant Kennedy on: 01383 411 880.

Calling All Shark Fans

ScotSAC chair Ken Smith and general secretary Bill Beattie, visited Deep Sea World in North Queensferry to attend the attractions' new full day course on shark awareness. The pair were impressed by what they found ...

FASCINATED BY sharks? Intrigued by the power and mystery of these awesome creatures? Then Deep Sea World's Shark Awareness course might just be for you. The course is designed for shark enthusiasts who have a passion for learning more about these complex animals.

The North Queensferry tourist attraction is Scotland's biggest aquarium with one of Europe's largest collection of Sand Tiger Sharks. The Sand Tigers live happily amongst over 2,000 fish including conger eels and rays in the underwater safari which holds an amazing 4.5million litres of water that is filtered straight from the Forth.

The Shark Awareness course is taught by resident dive instructor, Grant Kennedy who has dived with the sharks at Deep Sea World for over 5 years. He has also dived with and photographed sharks in locations such as the Red Sea and the Maldives. Grant said: "The shark awareness course is a great chance for divers to learn more about one of the

ocean's top predators and dispel many of the myths behind them. The course teaches real diving techniques from real shark divers!"

The various topics covered in the course include shark biology, shark conservation, sharks in the UK and diving with sharks. The course is only open to qualified divers who have a logged dive within the last 6 months and who have the PADI open water qualification or equivalent.

Shark awareness is taught over one full day with a classroom session in the morning and concludes with a briefing on the underwater safari where you finish with a dive. Divers are able to explore all areas of the tank including the wreck, wharf and kelp areas with the full dive lasting over 40 minutes.

Over to Ken and Bill to talk about their experiences, Ken said:

"I thought it was well worth spending the day learning about sharks; the different types of species and how few were actually dangerous compared to the hype you see on television. I was horrified to learn what we do as a race to sharks. Up to 450 million sharks are killed each year for shark fin soup. It's just not right."

Bill said: "I enjoyed the day; it was a really exciting experience and a guaranteed way to dive with sharks. I went to the Red Sea and didn't see a shark so it was great to be at Deep Sea World amongst the sharks and getting up close and personal with them! I think even divers have misconceptions about sharks



Above: ScotSAC chair Ken Smith takes a closer look at one of the tank inhabitants; below: Ken gets a superb view of one of the Sand Sharks.

