

# **NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club Newsletter April 2020**

**No Club Meeting: Wed 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Cancelled due to Covid-19 Level 4**

**Club Rooms : Closed – Stay Home, Stay Safe**

**Guest speaker: None. Instead try National Geographic Channel TV at your place**

**[www.dolphinunderwater.org](http://www.dolphinunderwater.org)**



**Club's Mail Address:  
14 Gails Drive  
Okura  
RD 2 Albany**



**Club Contacts  
Phone numbers & emails  
Committee listing inside**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2019/2020

<b>President/Editor</b>	Denis Adams	444 0501	da.triden@gmail.com
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Margaret Howard	0274 839 839	marg.howard@xtra.co.nz
<b>Sec/Treasurer backup</b>	Trish Mahon-Adams	444 0501	t.triden@gmail.com
<b>Web Site</b>	John Freeman	478 4958	john@witblitz.net
<b>Committee</b>	Matt Gouge	021 0777 282	mattgouge@gmail.com
<b>Dive Trips Organiser</b>	<b>Any Club member is welcome to arrange one</b>		
<b>Adventure Trips</b>	Martin Saggars	410 2363	saggarsmar1@orcon.net.nz
	Kate Ellis	410 2363	kate65nz@orcon.net.nz
<b>Entertainment</b>	Tom Butler	624 3505	trbutler@xtra.co.nz

### Life & Honorary Members

Barry Barnes – Life	Peter & Margaret Howard – Life	Brian Horton – Life
Reg Lawson - Life	Roberto Tonei – Life	Dave Quinlan – Life
Graham Thumah – Honorary	Tony & Jenny Enderby - Honorary	Eileen Slark – Honorary

**Cover Page Photo:– An appropriate signal for now by Denis**

### What's on our coming agenda?

#### **Note you will need to check if these are still on yourself**

**8<sup>th</sup> April – Wed – NO Dive club meeting Cancelled clubrooms closed.**

**17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> April – Fri - Sun – Whitianga Dive Festival 2020. See details in February mag. Probably cancelled**

**13<sup>th</sup> May – Wed – 7:30pm – Hopefully Dive club meeting - Pizza Night & AGM**

**22<sup>nd</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 – Kermadec Islands Trip** – 11 days – 2.5 days sailing each way – pristine diving Raol and Meyer Islands - Up to four dives a day will be available approx. time 8.00am 11.00 am 2.00pm and 5.00pm (almost night dive). May also be able to go ashore if conditions are right and DOC agree. Accommodates 14 divers (*2 places still available*) – in conjunction with Mt Maunganui Club, leaving Tauranga on 'MV Braveheart'. Four Dolphin Members have their name down so far. Price is \$NZ5750 a \$NZ2000 deposit by 1/2/2020 Contact **Steven Grant 0276583599** for further details. Some info on the ship - <https://braveheartexpeditions.com/> I have attached PDF files with a little more info also the youtube videos.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSOADEU5-3w>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWXPpBt4HV8>

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**10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – group going to Rarotonga** – Diving, snorkelling trip - (My 0274 839 839 number will be on hold from the 28<sup>th</sup> Jan until 21<sup>st</sup> March) contact Margaret if keen to join in..

**21<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Club Trip to Fiji** — For divers and non-divers. We had such a wonderful trip to Tonga – we want to do the same in Fiji. We have had a number of Club trips to Fiji in the past, we will be diving and visiting different areas this time, Margaret.

**You will need to contact the shops to see what's still on or off!**

**Upcoming Trips with Performance Dive NZ you may be interested in 2020 - Ph. 489 7782**

Sat– 8:30am – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sun– 9:00am Shore Dive – Local Coastline (Ring shop).

Sun– 8:00am @ Tutukaka - Poor Knights Islands Day Trip – 2 dives

**Upcoming Trips with Global Dive you may be interested in 2020 - Ph. 920 5200.**

Sat – Sun – Bay of Islands Weekend

Sat – Sun – Poor Knights Is 2 Day Trip Live a Board

**Other events & suggestions please contact a committee member or organise it yourself & get the club to make up your numbers. i.e. – Dives, trips NZ & O'Seas, Events, Outings, Tramps, Dinners, Movies, whatever social event tickles your fancy.**

### **Our Club's Trip Rules (Organiser's rules apply for overseas trips)**

- A. Bookings allowed on all trips.
- B. **A deposit or full payment to be made at time of booking.**
- C. Full payment MUST be paid at least two weeks before departure date.
- D. Trip Organiser to handle trip & bookings, & Treasurer to handle finances. Cancellations due to weather will be refunded in full, or transferred to another trip.
- E. Members cancelling for any reason will lose full monies unless they find a replacement for their position on the trip.
- F. The trips Organiser will determine if there are enough people to run a trip & if not will notify cancellation two weeks prior to departure.

**Non-Members & non-financial members will be charged an extra \$10 on trips.**

*Two trips & club membership is a must.*

**Membership: Single – \$40 Family - \$50.00**

**Some of you have not paid yet! Please do so ASAP**

**When financial you will then receive one of the new CLUB membership cards.  
Have you paid your subs yet – see Margaret or Trish next meeting or do it online.**

**Club's Internet bank account is 06 0122 0074227 00 & don't forget to put in your name  
or cheques posted to Club's mailing address, (front page).**

Club Membership also includes **Affiliation to the New Zealand Underwater Association**





## [All It Took To Clean Up This Beach Was A Big Fish Sculpture Named Goby](#)

*An image shared on social media of a creative sculpture on a beach in India, with a sign saying ‘Goby loves plastic, please feed him!’, has now been replicated in Bali, and the idea is catching on around the*

*world.*

There are stories on the internet about a fish named ‘Goby’ who loves to eat plastic trash. While this is a great concept, there are actually two different fish that are getting mixed up. In this article you can find both stories in one which will hopefully inspire others to create similar projects on beaches everywhere.



Claims have been made that the ocean will be home to more plastic than fish by 2050 if nothing is done. If that is true, at least there is new technology that has been rolled out that is [currently cleaning up the oceans](#). Moreover, there are also some great stories about local recycling, like the following about Goby The Fish, Yoshi The Fish, and more.

Instead of just placing a ton of boring old garbage cans around the beach, they made a giant see-through fish and added a sign to it that said “Goby loves plastic, please feed him.”

“We saw a similar installation on social media and begun researching it. We found out the fish was installed on a beach with a sign saying, ‘Goby loves plastic, please feed him!’, and

we embraced the idea.” — Craig Seaward, General Manager of W Bali – Seminyak *Source:* [WhatsNewsIndonesia.com](#)

Regarding the photo of Goby and caption above, it’s possible Mr. Seaward was referring to the pictures of “Yoshi the Fish” on Malpe Beach (see below). Either way, the concept inspired him to replicate their very own recycling fish.

**‘Fish That Swallowed Plastic Bottles’ Attracts Crowd At Malpe Beach, India** It began with “Yoshi the Fish” (pictured) on Malpe Beach, Mangaluru, India. The sculpture was spotted on social media by management of a holiday resort in Bali, who thought it an excellent idea, and they replicated it on their site with a fish named “Goby”. *Source:* [Mangalorean.com](#)

**Mangaluru, India, June 5, 2018:** The caption might take you by surprise since it is not a real fish that has swallowed all that plastic, but a creative sculpture on Malpe Beach, near Udupi on the Arabian Sea in Karnataka, to raise awareness about the damage done by plastic materials to marine life.



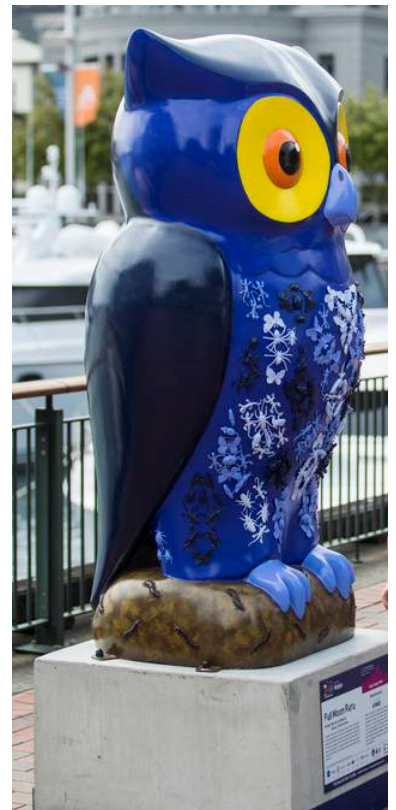
This unique concept, named “Yoshi the Fish”, has been created by artist and sculptor [Janardhan Havanje](#).

Made of iron rods, it cost him nearly Rs 45,000 (£495/\$646/€572), to make this 10ft/3m by 8ft/2.44m sculpture- which was filled with plastic waste collected on the beach during the campaign.

My question is, why is there not a Goby on every single beach in this world!?



**This idea is certainly not limited to fish. Any abstract receptacle is sure to get people’s attention.**



**Why not use the owls? They are everywhere in the city & also the malls.**



## Lockdown Gear Maintenance

With this extra time on our hands now is a great time to give your dive gear a little extra TLC.

### Soaking

Give all your dive gear a good soak in warm soapy water ([proper gear wash](#) if you have it but dishwashing liquid or shampoo will do). Ideally you want to move everything a round a little in the water so get stuck in and agitate the water every now and then. Once you have soaked it all, rinse with some fresh water and then hang out to dry.

### Corrosion Removal

Corrosion (green build up) - give it a bit of a brush with an old toothbrush. You can brush with a vinegar solution (dilute white vinegar in water 50/50) before giving it a soak as above.

**Regulator** - move any hose protectors out of the way to check for corrosion. Make sure dust caps are firmly in place. Flush 2nd stages with water but don't press the purge button.

**BCD** - Check for corrosion on the inflator hose. Pour [soaking water](#) into the inflator hose and press all buttons. Inflate BCD and roll water around the inside of the bladder before draining out of a rear dump (avoid draining this water out of the inflator hose).

**Wetsuits / Drysuits** - check all zippers. Follow corrosion removal steps as necessary. Once [soaked](#) and dried you can maintain the zips with a [zipper lubricant](#). Check all the inside seams and if you have some [Aquaseal](#) on hand you can glue down any loose seam tape or neoprene flaps. Any loose threads on wet suits can be carefully burned off.

**Masks** - using an old toothbrush give the skirt a good clean with some disinfectant and re-clean the lens with [lens cleaner](#) (in a pinch white toothpaste will do).

**Straps and mouthpieces** - Check these over for any tears or holes. Replace as necessary.

**Tanks** - Always make sure you have some pressure in your cylinder. Check valves for corrosion and follow the steps above. Remove tank boots and mesh before giving a good wash down in fresh water.

**Knives / Snapbolts** - check for rust. Remove with fine wire wool and lightly oil to protect.

**Torches / Camera Housings** - Check for corrosion, soak as above. Make sure to press all buttons and move all levers when both soaking and drying. Once dried place somewhere like a hot water cupboard to completely rid of moisture. [Lube o-rings](#) and remove batteries for storage.

Check all your gear for correct function and fit. If an item is not performing as it should it may be time to replace it. Remember all Regulators and BCD's should be serviced regularly by a qualified technician.



Thanks to 'Global Dive' for the article

## What Type of Dive Buddy Are You?

Thanks to PADI

Dive buddies come in all shapes and sizes. Some are amazing divers and become lifelong friends, others make you wonder – *did this person forge their certification card?* Read on to learn about eleven common types of dive buddies, including the ideal one.

### The Nature Guide

The Nature Guide has both the [PADI Fish Identification](#) and [Underwater Naturalist](#) specialty certifications and a library of Fish ID books in their car. Throughout the dive s/he will regularly signal for your attention to point out juvenile fish, [camouflaged cephalopods](#), and interesting rock formations. The Nature Guide is an ideal buddy for the photographer/videographer.

## The Photographer/Videographer

There are pros and cons to having The Photographer/Videographer as your dive buddy. You'll get great photos of your dive, but your buddy's attention may be behind the lens a lot of the time. For this reason, the Photographer/Videographer and their dive buddy should consider taking the [PADI Self-Reliant Diver specialty](#).

The [Peak Performance Buoyancy specialty](#) is another valuable course for both The Photographer/Videographer and their buddy. A Photographer/Videographer will often ask their buddy to be a model, which can require hovering quite close to fragile marine life. Similarly, a great shot requires excellent buoyancy and all image shooters should ensure they have their buoyancy dialed before picking up a camera.

## The Swimmer

Ever have a dive buddy who wanted to explore the entire ocean floor on one dive? If so, you were likely paired up with The Swimmer. This type of buddy tends to run out of air quickly and utilizes a dangerous "same ocean same dive" philosophy.

## The Slow Poke

The Slow Poke can spend thirty minutes looking at a rock. If it weren't for the occasional bubbles, you might wonder if a Slow Poke is still alive. This type of buddy isn't for everyone (they drive Swimmers crazy) but are well-suited for photographers/videographers and Nature Guides. [Read one diver's experience becoming a convert to slow diving.](#)



## The Bragger

No matter where you've been diving s/he was there years ago – before other divers ruined it. The Bragger has never peed in their wetsuit *ever* and can make a three-hour dive on a single tank.

Don't worry about bringing your compass, The Bragger once gave directions to a dolphin. But beware if you get The Bragger as your dive buddy. They may be talking up their experience because they haven't logged a dive in twenty years.

## Captain Oblivious

Another less-than-ideal dive buddy is Captain Oblivious. These divers are easily distracted by marine life, their camera, shiny objects, etc. You may look up to find Captain Oblivious diving right on top of you, or swimming away in the opposite direction. This dive buddy may unknowingly descend beyond recreational limits and is a hazard to themselves and others.

## The Tec Diver

When your dive buddy is a Tec Diver, you never have to worry about forgetting a piece of equipment – the Tec

Diver has two backups...of everything. The Tec Diver gives great gear-buying advice and will follow you through any swim-through, no matter how small.

Just be prepared for this buddy to continually tell you why you should [try rebreather diving](#).

### **The Time Capsule Diver**

The opposite of The Tech Diver is The Time Capsule Diver. This diver hasn't purchased new equipment since they started diving. Their BC leaks, their computer only syncs with their transmitter half the time and their faded wetsuit is one dive away from dissolving into the ocean. This dive buddy typically can afford new gear, but takes pride in diving their original equipment even though [diving with scuba equipment that hasn't been serviced or is out-of-date](#) can be dangerous.

### **The Castaway**

You probably won't know The Castaway is your dive buddy until the dive is almost over. After diligently following them and keeping close contact like good buddies should, The Castaway will turn to you and signal "where's the boat?" ˘\\_(ツ)\_/˘ At this point, you'll both be wishing you'd taken the [PADI Underwater Navigator specialty](#).

### **The Newbie**

Being buddied up with a new diver has its pros and cons. Their air consumption might not be great, but their enthusiasm is often contagious. If you get a new diver as your buddy, do your best to be a good role model by staying off the reef and doing regular air checks. Avoid tight swim-throughs, and point out any hazards they might not be aware of (fire coral, titan triggerfish, electric rays, etc).

### **The Best Type of Dive Buddy?**

A [PADI Rescue Diver](#). Who would you rather have as a buddy? An Open Water Diver or a PADI® Rescue Diver? The Rescue Diver course is "serious fun," a rewarding way to learn safe diving skills and gain confidence.

Whether you're a newly-certified diver or [PADI Advanced Open Water Diver](#), you can start the Rescue Diver program. You'll start by learning to identify potential problems before they happen and, working with a PADI Instructor, you'll role play emergency situations and practice how to respond. Along the way you'll familiarize yourself with your buddy's gear so you'll be better prepared in case of a problem.

Divers who take the PADI Rescue Diver course frequently say it's the best course they've ever taken, and many instructors tell us Rescue is their favorite class to teach because of the transformation they see in their students. To get started, sign up for [Rescue Diver online](#) and [contact your local PADI Dive Center or Resort](#).

## **DAN's Quick Guide To Properly Disinfecting Dive Gear**

In light of the recent outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), questions have arisen in the dive community about disease transmission when using rental equipment, especially regulators. With the threat of coronavirus on everyone's minds, divers want to know what precautions are being taken against the spread of disease. Properly sanitizing equipment is paramount. Keep the following in mind:

According to the CDC, household cleaners are as effective against COVID-19 as they are against the common cold and flu viruses. Therefore, cleaning and disinfecting equipment meant for personal use (such as second-stage regulators, masks, snorkels and BCD oral inflators) is very important.

Equipment can be effectively sanitized by submerging it in a 10% bleach solution or using a cleaning product such as Steramine™ tablets or any other quaternary ammonium compound. Be sure to use these products according to the manufacturer's directions and then rinse the gear with fresh water.





Products that are commonly used to clean dive gear but are ineffective against coronavirus include antibacterial and chlorhexidine mouthwashes or sprays. Hot soapy water must be paired with mechanical action such as scrubbing with a soft toothbrush to be effective.

If you're a diver using rental gear and would like to take extra steps to protect yourself from transmissible diseases, thoroughly wipe the following equipment with a household disinfecting wipe and then rinse with fresh water before use:

- Regulator mouthpiece
- Snorkel
- BCD oral inflator
- The inside of your mask

If you do not have access to wipes, you may wish to ask the shop you're diving with to properly sanitize the equipment before you take it with you.

For a list of household cleaning products effective against the coronavirus, see the American Chemistry Council Center for Biocide Chemistries' [list of products](#) that have an "emerging viral pathogen claim" from the Environmental Protection Agency. When using a household cleaning product, it might be prudent to change the active ingredient every so often to avoid breeding resistant strains.

As always, frequent hand-washing (with soap for at least 20 seconds), regularly cleaning high-traffic objects and areas (bathrooms, door handles, countertops, etc.), avoiding contact with people who are sick, and staying home when you are ill are some of the best ways to stop the spread of disease. For more information, see the [CDC's coronavirus page](#).

You can also check out the EPA's diving safety manual for its [guidelines on decontaminating scuba equipment](#).

If you have any questions, please contact [RiskMitigation@DAN.org](mailto:RiskMitigation@DAN.org).

Thanks to DAN for this article.



For those of us stuck indoors, Can you better these couple of Lego projects seen at a recent show on the Shore.

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Darren Shields

6 Arrenway Drive, Albany, Auckland, New Zealand  
P: (09) 479 4232 M: 021 839118 E: darren@wettie.co.nz  
Web: www.wettie.co.nz

## North Shore Scuba Centre

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Tel: 09 478-6220 Fax: 09 478-6221 email: hasan@airtec.co.nz  
website: www.divecompressors.co.nz



**MIKE SMITH**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

mob 021 778 633  
email - mike@oceanhunter.co.nz  
100 Gaunt Street Westhaven Auckland  
09 377 0896 - PO Box 46 Greenhithe 0756  
www.oceanhunter.co.nz  
www.nzspearo.com

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Michael O'Loughlin - Owner  
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09 307 3590 / 021 0250 8990  
www.divehqwesthaven.co.nz  
michael@divehqwesthaven.co.nz

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**Dave Moran**  
Editor and  
Managing Director

Ph +64 9 521 0684  
Mob 0274 784 900  
Fax +64 9 521 3675  
PO Box 42 020, Orakei,  
Auckland, New Zealand 1745  
davem@DiveNewZealand.co.nz  
www.DiveNewZealand.com  
www.Dive-Pacific.com

## PERFORMANCE Diver

**John Haynes**  
Mob 021 384 777

74 Barrys Point Road, Takapuna  
Auckland, New Zealand  
Phone/Fax: 64-9-489-7782  
Email: john@performancediver.co.nz  
Website: www.performancediver.co.nz  
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Mobile: +64 21 511 431  
Fax: +64 9 475 9319  
Email: jc@splash.co.nz

Splash Dive Ltd  
50a Anzac Road, Browns Bay  
PO Box 35-216, Browns Bay  
Auckland 0753, New Zealand

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**GLOBALDIVE**  
Dive Training, Equipment and Travel

**Andrew Simpson**  
Manager  
mob (021) 233 8763  
andrew@globaldive.net

6/1 Westhaven Drive  
Westhaven, Auckland  
Aotearoa, New Zealand  
ph (09) 920 5200  
fx (09) 360 8321  
www.globaldive.net



**mares**



**HEAD**  
SWIMMING

**Adrian Hogg**  
New Zealand Manager

Mob. +64 (0)2 161 4029  
Tel. +64 (0)19 525 4032  
Fax. +64 (0)19 448 2083  
a.hogg@nz.mares.com

**MARES Asia Pacific LTD**  
Unit D, 5 Piermark Drive, Albany 0632  
P.O. Box 303064, North Harbour 0751, Auckland, NZ  
A division of **HEAD**

**Stay Safe All - remember the rules**

**Anyone got any trip reports/photos of interest?**