

NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club Newsletter February 2020

Next Club Meeting: Wed 12th February 2020 – 7:00pm
Club Rooms

Guest speaker: Bar-B-Q Night

www.dolphinunderwater.org



Club's Mail Address:
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Club Contacts
Phone numbers & emails
Committee listing inside

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2019/2020

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Committee	Matt Gouge	021 0777 282	mattgouge@gmail.com
Dive Trips Organiser	Any Club member is welcome to arrange one		
Adventure Trips	Martin Sagers	410 2363	sagersmar1@orcon.net.nz
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Entertainment	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:– Octopus watching me in Fiji by Denis

What's on our coming agenda?

12th Feb – Wed – 7:00pm – Dive club meeting – BBQ – Bring a salad /desert to share, the club will provide sausages, bread, onions & sauce.

11th March – Wed – 7:30pm – Dive club meeting. Speaker tbc

8th April – Wed – 7:30pm – Dive club meeting AGM & Pizza Night

17th - 19th April – Fri - Sun – Whitianga Dive Festival 2020. See details in mag.

22nd May – 1st 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>

22nd May – 1st June 2020 – Kermadec Islands Trip – 11 days – 2.5 days sailing each way – leaving 5 days pristine diving Raol Island - \$5750pp - accommodates 14 divers – in conjunction with Mt Maunganui Club, leaving Tauranga on 'MV Braveheart'. Five Dolphin Members have their name down so far. Contact **Steven Grant 0276 583 599** for further details. Some info on the ship - <https://braveheartexpeditions.com/>

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

21st – 30th 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. (My Oz number is 0061 459 806 660) Margaret.

Upcoming Trips with Performance Dive NZ you may be interested in 2019 - Ph. 489 7782

Sat 15th February – 9:00am Shore Dive – Local Coastline (Ring shop).

Sun 16th February – 8:30am – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sat 22nd February – 8:00am @ Tutukaka - Poor Knights Islands Day Trip – 2 dives

Sun 23rd February – 8:30am – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sun 1st March - 9:00am Shore Dive – Local Coastline (Ring shop).

Sun 8th March – 8:30am – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Upcoming Trips with Global Dive you may be interested in 2019 - Ph. 920 5200.

Sat 22nd February – Scuba Saturday – Leigh Coast

Sat 25th – Sun 26th February – Bay of Islands Weekend

Sun 1st March – Poor Knights Is Day Trip

Sat 7th March – Poor Knights Is Day Trip Live a Board

Sat 7th March – Scuba Saturday – Leigh Coast

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

More diver deaths linked to skipped safety steps



1 Jan, 2020 9:38am

The police dive squad says the most common issue is divers in trouble aren't ditching their weight belt.

Photo / 123RF

RNZ

By **Karoline Tuckey** of [RNZ](#)

Diving fatalities have been high this year, and one of the police dive squads tasked with bringing home the bodies says many deaths happen because divers skip key safety steps.

Ten people died while diving in 2019 - all were preventable, Water Safety New Zealand said. The five-year average is six preventable diving deaths while diving each year, and last year alone there were five preventable deaths of divers. The figures for December are still to be finalised.

Police dive squad constable Aaron Wynyard, who loves diving in his spare time and takes water safety very seriously for both work and play, said sadly many diving fatalities came down to several often-seen mistakes.

"Each one of those is a sad occasion for us - our whole focus is to try to find that person to bring them back, especially for the family.

"And when we do find them, for us it's a warm feeling inside because then that family can move on and mourn their loved ones and actually have someone there. And the ones that we can't find ... we're deeply saddened by that."

Police divers search for evidence about why deaths happen, video the scene before they retrieve a body, and test the equipment divers were using, to find out what happened.

"The number one issue we're finding is a lot of divers when they get in trouble aren't ditching their weight belt. If you don't ditch your weight belt then obviously you're going to find it harder to come back to the surface - we find a lot of them at the bottom still wearing it - or their buddy tries to get it off, but it's too late," Wynyard said.

"The second is people diving alone without a dive buddy, and not staying with your buddy once in the water."

And another trap is people keen to get out into the water not realising they aren't medically fit for it.

Divers should always get a medical pass to dive from a doctor, Wynyard said.

"Especially once you're over 45, you should do those medicals annually."

There is often a combination of reasons why things go wrong, but "plan for the worst and you won't get caught out".

"Police divers have got a set of safety rules we follow, and civilian dive schools use the same rules - and if you follow these rules you should be okay," Wynyard said.

"Diving is an activity that more and more people are taking up. It's good fun - once you leave the surface you're in a whole new world ... just be safe out there - maintain your equipment and dive with a buddy.

Water Safety New Zealand chief executive Jonty Mills said as the population grew, and interest in a wide range of outdoor sports increased, more people in the water could get into danger.

"I always say that one preventable drowning is one too many.

"We need everyone to take responsibility, and be prepared and know their own limits, and be aware of the dangers, particularly with local knowledge - and make wise decisions around water."

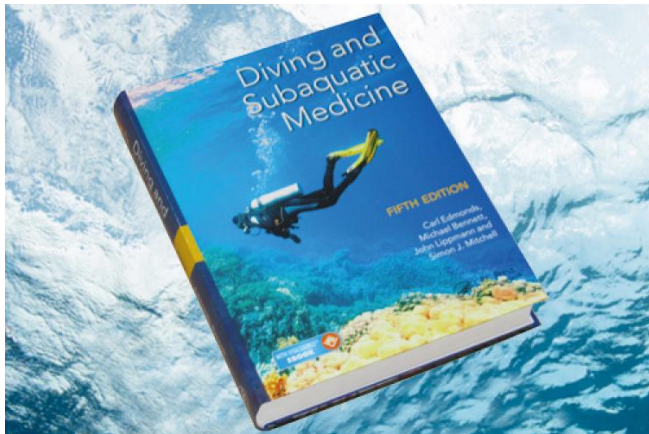
The police dive squad's golden rules:

- Check your equipment thoroughly every time you dive, but especially if you haven't been out for a while.
- Don't dive if you don't feel well.
- Don't stay underwater if you start feeling unwell.
- Don't dive on an empty stomach, or within two hours of a heavy meal.
- Don't dive after drinking alcohol.
- Don't ascend too fast or hold your breath while you ascend.
- Don't dive deeper than you are assigned to, or your comfort zone.

Diving Docs warn using SCUBA when freediving can be fatal

January 02, 2020 - 16:24

A peer-reviewed study has been published in the December 2019 edition of DHM, that discusses the case of an experienced breath-hold diver who died from an air embolism, after taking a breath(s) on SCUBA.



Dr John Lippmann is a respected author and has heavily contributed to the essential resource 'Diving and Subaquatic Medicine' reference book

The Australian authors - Dr Neil Banham (lead) and Dr John Lippmann - reported that a 26 year-old healthy male freediver dived to 10 m / 32.8 ft where he met a friend who was diving on scuba. The free-diver breathed from a scuba regulator before ascending.

It may have been that he held much of his breath during ascent, which would have been his usual and generally safe practice with normal breath hold diving. Banham, Lippmann



It is not known whether the free-diver exhaled during ascent. However he was found unconscious on the surface with blood coming from his mouth. Attempts were made to resuscitate him. He was then medevaced to a nearby hospital where he failed to regain consciousness following resuscitation attempts.

Banham and Lippmann noted that a CT scan had been conducted immediately after resuscitation attempts were stopped and the results showed physical damage to the lungs, liver, spleen, kidneys and brain. Some of the barotrauma (pressure-injury) damage was extensive and extreme.

Although some divers might be surprised that this injury can occur from an ascent from 10 msw (metres sea water), pulmonary barotrauma (burst lung) and air embolism (air bubbles in the arterial circulation, often the brain) have occurred after breathing SCUBA and ascending from as little as one metre.

Golden Rule of Diving

One of the first pieces of information taught to divers is to never hold your breath whilst diving. It is possible that the freediver did not know this important and golden rule about maintaining an open airway and ensuring adequate exhalation during ascent after breathing compressed gas underwater. The major implication of failing to do so are pulmonary barotrauma and cerebral arterial gas embolism (CAGE), as in this case.

Timely Warning

This freediving fatality serves as a timely warning because in the last couple of years we have seen an explosion of mini-scuba solutions being marketed and promoted to both the diving community and the general public. The inventor(s) are often seeking seed finance via platforms such as GoFundMe. The PR often goes along the line of "*why bother with expensive scuba diving lessons and equipment, when you could buy this product for a couple of hundred pounds and the ocean is your oyster.*" There is very little, if any safety information given.

When the ['Mini-Dive'](#) was launched in late Spring 2017 it came with the safety message "*Always adopt flexible and continuous respiration.*" The important message got lost in translation and there was no explanation as to why it is dangerous to hold your breath whilst scuba diving.

Neil Banham and John Lippmann highlighted in their article it is important that both scuba divers and freedivers need to be properly educated about the risk of pulmonary barotrauma and CAGE.

Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine (DHM) Journal

SPUMS (South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society) and EUBS (European Underwater and Baromedical Society) jointly publish the ['Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine'](#) journal once a quarter.

Unless a release fee is paid, all DHM articles are embargoed for one year. During this time the only people who can access the new research are SPUMS members. Anyone can become an Associate Member of SPUMS, just follow the link at the end of this article.

In certain circumstances fees are paid to release a paper early. In September 2018 EUROTOK paid the fee so that a new piece of peer-reviewed [research about the storage of partly used sorb](#) could be released one-year early, to help provide rebreather divers with some much needed clarity.

[Hide Sources and references](#)

Source article or further references:

[Fatal air embolism in a breath-hold diver](#)

[South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society Associate Membership](#)



Whitianga Dive Festival to turn on the fun

Divers from far and wide will be gathering at *Dive Zone Whitianga* this April 17-19th for a great long weekend of competitions, games and social evenings.

Feature events include:

- Fancy dress up dinner on Saturday night. Vikings is the theme
- Fun competitions
- Huge pool of awesome prizes

Go to www.divefestival.co.nz (what a great programme!) then do the paper work. You can enter one event or several. But to go in the draw to join the crew on a fantastic dive trip for two staying at Beqa Lagoon Resort in Fiji diving Beqa Lagoon you have to enter all events.

Huge thanks to our sponsors!

We have a prize pool loaded with

goodies, from Mares mask and snorkel sets, dive computers, regs, BCD's, Mission Kayak, Beuchat Freediving gear, subs to *Dive Pacific* magazine, all the way through to our **GRAND PRIZE DRAW** of a dive trip for two to join us diving the famous shark dives of Beqa Lagoon, staying at Beqa Lagoon Resort, flying Fiji Airways.

Feature events include the Underwater Photography Competition, Spear Fishing comp., treasure hunt for the kids on the beach and in the water for the adults, and *The Dive Zone Scuba Olympic challenge*. Prizes for all categories. Casual social at Dive Zone Whitianga on the Friday (no charge) and the dress up dinner on the Saturday night.

For more contact Linda at Dive Zone Whitianga on 0274-827273 or go to www.divefestival.co.nz



Dive Festival 2020!

Join us for a weekend of dive, competitions, social evenings and lots of chances to win awesome prizes



Enter to win a trip for 2 diving Beqa Lagoon Fiji



17-19 April 2020
Check out www.divefestival.co.nz
for details



Matataua supports Police in search

In early July, 46-year-old Southland businessman Matthew Charles Duncan was reported missing after his cabin boat Sundance II was found empty on Lake Wakatipu. After aerial and land searches failed to find Mr Duncan, personnel from New Zealand Police and HMNZS MATATAUA were called in to help in the search.

"Our specialist skills and equipment are essential in operations such as this which involve the search and recovery of personnel and equipment," said Petty Officer Hydrographic Survey Technician Jason Sage, who led a team of four Royal New Zealand Navy hydrographic surveyors to Queenstown.

"The use of the REMUS also allows our divers to locate a target in a short period of time without needing to be in the water, which saves valuable dive time for the recovery."

In this particular search and recovery mission, the Navy hydrographers were able to cover the search area, which was about 670 metres by 530 metres, in three-and-a-half hours. In comparison, it would take two days to cover an area that was 500 metres by 360 metres, using a radial sonar.

"After processing the data for another two-and-a-half hours, we located a possible contact around 4:30pm, which Police confirmed about an hour later to be the missing person. Three hours later, Police divers, using underwater torches, were able to recover the body," POHST Sage said.

"What happened was a tragedy for the man's family and through collaboration with New Zealand Police, we were able to bring them closure."

Comprised of hydrographers, divers and associated logistics support, HMNZS MATATAUA is one of the specialist capabilities of the New Zealand Defence Force that are often called upon to assist New Zealand Police.

MATATAUA personnel are on six hours' notice to move 24/7, 365 days a year. They are skilled in locating and identifying submerged vessels and aircraft, undertaking underwater searches for missing persons, recovering submerged lightweight objects and bodies, and disposing of maritime explosive ordnance.

"One of the advantages is that we can cover a large area in a short space of time using the REMUS autonomous underwater vehicle."

Navy Museum Expands

The Navy museum is set to embark on a major redevelopment, nearly doubling in size as it prepares to restore a unique heritage building as museum space.

Many people are unaware that the Navy Museum was built within an historic site – one of the most intact examples of a naval mine facility in New Zealand, and possibly the southern hemisphere.

The restoration of the mine stores is the next major step in a 10 year project for the museum which began in 2010, with the relocation from the naval base to Torpedo Bay. In 2015, a new World War One commemorative Pavilion linking the original mine test room to the main museum was opened. The original mine test room was repurposed as the AD Boyle Room, displaying artefacts from World War One.

Museum director David Wright says: "The restoration of the Loaded Mine Stores is a very significant project for the Navy, the Museum and the Devonport community. It has been in the planning for a number of years. We are delighted to have the support of NZDF to complete the project, enabling us to retain the character and integrity of the mine stores, ensuring their sustainability for future generations to enjoy."

The Loaded Mine Stores was built hard up against Maungauika (North Head) in 1896, complete with rail tracks to move mines on trolleys. Built to withstand enemy

bombardments, in response to the 'Russian Scare' of the mid 1880s, the walls and roof are 600mm thick and built of concrete reinforced with railway lines. The three buildings will be restored to become two new galleries and a modern learning space.

"The new galleries will tell the story of Torpedo Bay and our contemporary Navy. You'll see models of our ships, which you can interact with for information. There will be a major video display of the modern navy in action.

"We've worked with a focus group of sailors, including LCSS Alicia Wall, Sailor of the Year, to get their thoughts and ideas on what they'd like to see in the new Navy gallery. The aim of the gallery is for young Navy personnel to come to the museum and show their families, saying, this is what I do, this is who I am," says Mr Wright.

A new modern learning space will be created within the third mine store. The learning space will cater for primary, secondary and tertiary learning. The Navy Museum education team will also utilise the space to continue to deliver naval heritage lessons for Basic Common Trainees, Junior Officers, Leading Rates and Petty Officer courses.

The area between the mine stores and main museum will be refurbished and properly enclosed to form an atrium. Thanks to the generous donation from the Land and Newport families, one of the buried turntables located in the atrium will be uncovered for display.

Completing the project, an area directly below the cliff face of Maungauika will display the highly polished propeller from HMNZS CANTERBURY (F421), visible from outside the mine stores along with one of the guns from HMNZS KANIERE.

Keeping an eye on the future, the creation of a new "contemporary navy" gallery will enable the existing space in the museum, which merges 20th and 21st century material, to be re-invented.

The New Zealand Defence Force is paying for the restoration of the mine stores, while nearly \$650,000 needed to fit-out of the new spaces and create the atrium will be funded directly by the museum from fundraising and grants. Work is expected to start this month, with the new galleries and learning space open for visitors in July 2020.

'You'll see models of our ships, with which you can interact for information. There will be a major video display of the modern navy in action.'

How about a Club visit sometime? Exerts from 'Navy Today' magazine.

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