

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

**Club Meeting: Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Club Rooms : 7:00pm Covid-19 Level 2 Plus you will have to sign in**

**Guest speaker: Pizza night & AGM + Lock down stories etc.**

**[www.dolphinunderwater.co.nz](http://www.dolphinunderwater.co.nz)**



**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	0275 970 922	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>Committee</b>	John Freeman	021 983 610	john@witblitz.net
<b>Web Site</b>	Matt Gouge	021 0777 282	mattgouge@gmail.com
<b>Dive Trips Organiser</b>	<b>Vacant – Note any Club member is welcome to arrange one</b>		
<b>Adventure Trips</b>	Martin Sagers	410 2363	sagersmar1@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:– Cleaner Shrimp in Tonga by Denis.**

### What's on our coming agenda?

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

**10<sup>th</sup> June – Wed – 7:00pm - Dive club meeting - Pizza Night & AGM**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sept – 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 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'. **5 Dolphin Members have their name down so far, 2 more places are still available.** Contact **Steven Grant 0276 583 599** for further details. Ship data - <https://braveheartexpeditions.com/>

**Tbc 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.

**Postponed tbc – Group going to Rarotonga** – Diving, snorkelling trip - contact Margaret if keen to join in.

**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**

Sun – 8:30am 7<sup>th</sup> June– Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha (Ring shop).

Sat– 9:00am 20<sup>th</sup> June - Shore Dive – Local Coastline (Ring shop).

Sun– 8:30am 21<sup>st</sup> June – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sat– 9:00am 4<sup>th</sup> July - Shore Dive – Local Coastline.

Sun– 8:30am 5th July – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

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

7<sup>th</sup> Sun – 9<sup>th</sup> Tue June – Live-a-board Anemone Spawning – Meals, 9 Dives, 7 Air fills, Sight Seeing etc.

13<sup>th</sup> Sat June – Poor Knights Is 1 Day Trip w/Yukon

27<sup>th</sup> Sat - 28<sup>th</sup> Sun June – Rainbow Warrior & Cavalli Is. Live-a-board, 7 Dives 5 Air fills

28<sup>th</sup> Sun June – Rescue Sunday TBC

7<sup>th</sup> Tue – 8<sup>th</sup> Wed July - Anemone Spawning Bay of Islands Accom, Meals, 4 Dives 2 Air fills.

10<sup>th</sup> Fri night 11<sup>th</sup> Sat – 12<sup>th</sup> Sun July – Bay of Islands Weekend includes accom. 4 dives

**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. *Two trips & club membership is a must.*
- 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.**

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

**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**

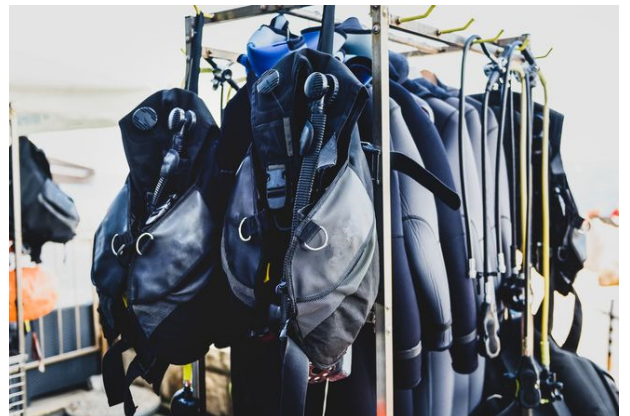
### **How to Disinfect Your Dive Gear**

Clean Gear Is Healthy Gear By [Roger Roy](#) April 4, 2020

We may never get sick of diving. But how do we avoid getting sick from diving—more specifically, from the gear we use?

Properly cleaning dive equipment—especially your mask, reg and snorkel—can help reduce the chance of becoming ill. Here are tips on how to do it.

Scuba gear drying on a stand at a dive centre.



### **Regs**

A reg’s mouthpiece is the most obvious place to start with a thorough cleaning, but it’s not the only part of a reg that needs attention; you also must clean the chamber inside the second-stage where your breath passes through as you inhale and exhale.

A proper cleaning requires not just removing salt, sand, slobber, etc., but sanitizing those surfaces. Note that sanitize is what you’re aiming for—making contact surfaces sanitary by removing virtually all germs. Killing off everything requires sterilizing or disinfecting, which isn’t practical for dive gear since it’s as likely to harm your gear—or you—as it is to harm bacteria and viruses.

In other words, save the bleach or other household chemicals for cleaning your bathroom floor.

A product commonly used to clean dive gear including rebreathers is Steramine™, an EPA-registered, multi-purpose anti-microbial sanitizer. Widely used in the restaurant industry to sanitize food-contact surfaces, it's non-corroding and non-staining, leaves no taste, is easy to use and inexpensive—our most recent 150-tablet bottle cost about \$10. Be sure to read and follow the label instructions and safety warning, since it can be harmful if handled improperly.

Mix one tablet with each gallon of water and wait for it to dissolve (it will turn a pale blue). Swirl the reg's second stage in the mixture to let it fill the interior chamber, occasionally pulling the reg out and holding it upright to let the mixture run through the exhaust diaphragm. Unless the reg is connected to a cylinder with the valve open, don't press the purge, which can allow the mixture to enter the valve. Let the reg soak for a few minutes before removing.

Steramine leaves little residue. In our rebreather loop, it was unnoticeable after drying, with no taste or odor. But for your reg a final rinse in clean water won't hurt if you're inclined. Be sure to follow the same procedure with your octo.

## **BC inflator**

Allow Steramine™ solution to flow into the mouthpiece and inflator, and press the oral inflate button to let the mixture flow through the valve. Let it soak a few minutes; it's a good idea to pour some clean rinse water into the oral inflator with the valve open to rinse away any residue.

## **Masks**

Your eyes and nose are also pathways for pathogens, so your mask likewise should get the treatment. Again, swirl it in the Steramine mixture and allow it to soak for a few minutes. If you're one of those divers who lets defog agent build up in the crevices of your mask between the skirt and lens, be sure to scrub it out; a soft-bristled toothbrush will do the trick.

## **Snorkel**

If you've read this far, you know the routine.

## **Suits, hoods, boots**

Steramine™ is registered for use on "non-porous articles." That said, we've used it with good results on wetsuits—and especially boots—to kill off (or at least dial back) odors, though we can't vouch for its anti-microbial abilities on neoprene.

We also know divers who spray it on neoprene rather than soaking it, though usually at a higher concentration of 2 to 3 tablets per gallon.

## **Rental Gear**

Your own reg is one thing, but what about a reg that's been in someone else's mouth? The bottom line is that professional dive operators who rent gear should have procedures in place to thoroughly clean and properly sanitize gear after each use. Operators we've dived with and rented gear from use a process like that described above. But any shop should be happy to tell you—or even show you—exactly the procedure they follow in cleaning and sanitizing the gear they rent.

## **Dive boat mask rinse tanks**

Some divers use these shared tanks to rinse their masks, while others let them soak throughout surface intervals. Whether the tank contains sanitizer or not, it seems safe to say, if you use these tanks, your mask will be about as hygienic—or not—as every other mask in that tank. Just sayin'.

## [Pod of dolphins cruising up a Waikato river baffles scientist](#)

Kelley Tantau 13:22, May 21 2020

Peter Pakinga snapped a video of a large pod of dolphins cruising down Piako River.

Local reporting is vital to a thriving and connected community. Help us keep telling Waikato's stories by making a contribution.

The pod of dolphins seen cruising kilometres up a Waikato river were likely following their stomachs.

The behaviour of the estimated 60 dolphins surprise both bystanders and scientists, who say their actions highlighted how much there was still to learn about the marine mammals.

On Monday, the dolphins - some around 2.5m long - made their way from the Firth of Thames up the silty Piako River and were spotted in Ngatea, an inland swim of 12km.

Niwa marine mammal scientist Dr Krista Hupman said telling by the shape of the dolphins' fins, they appeared to be either bottlenose or common dolphins, though both species swimming in an estuary was "extremely rare".



WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL/TWITTER

Around 60 dolphins were spotted cruising along the Piako River in Ngatea on Monday morning.

"I haven't heard of any reports of animals being in there before. That's not to say they haven't been, but it's just not something we hear of very often," she told *Stuff*.

Dolphins swimming within brackish water - salt water and fresh water mixed together - was also not common.

"It was very strange to me that they had travelled all that way.

"Because often when I hear of an animal in an estuary, it might be just one. But a pod of 60? That's a very large number to see in an inland region."

For dolphins to travel that far inland, there needed to be some reward, she said.



"The normal activities for dolphins are socialising, resting, foraging or milling. Resting and socialising they can do anywhere, milling is travelling back and forward, which they can do anywhere.

"So why would they go up the river? The only thing I can guess at is foraging, and looking for some type of food."

But searching that far for food was also bizarre, Hupman said, as the Hauraki Gulf already offered dolphins a diverse range of prey.



*Danny Boulton/Stuff*

New Zealand's bottlenose dolphins are among the largest bottlenoses in the world.

"That's why I am surprised, because there is such a diversity of prey in other areas. What would drive them to take some sort of prey that far inland? It's anyone's guess, but if they had gone that far, they would have likely been chasing something."

Hupman said it was odd events such as Monday's that highlight how much there is left to discover about dolphins.

"When something odd like this occurs, it shows how much more we need to study them to really figure out what they're doing."

Those who witnessed the pod moving at a great pace through the Hauraki Plains on Monday said they had to "pinch themselves".

Hauraki District Council mowing labourer Peter Pakinga, and Waikato Regional Council works supervisor Ian Sara said the unique visit was something the grandchildren would have loved to see.

"Everybody was just aghast watching it, and everyone said it was something we might never get again, Pakinga said.

### **On the Cards**

A man was playing bridge with three women. He was bidding so badly that his partner was greatly annoyed.

After few hours, he excused himself to go to the washroom. His partner exclaimed, 'This is the first time all night that I know what he has in his hand'.

## Kia Ora from NZSpearfishing Community - However it applies to all of us.

There was a pretty major announcement made by MPI recently in both CRA 2 (Hauraki / BOP) and CRA 5 (Canterbury / Top of the South) CRA 2

- Daily recreational limit to go from 6 to 3
- Telson clipping compulsory (see image CRA 5)
- **Telson clipping compulsory** (To prove it's recreationally caught. Ed).
- Bag and tag rules come into play. No more than 3 days accumulated catch. Each day to be bagged and dated separately.



One-third of the central telson has been cut off.

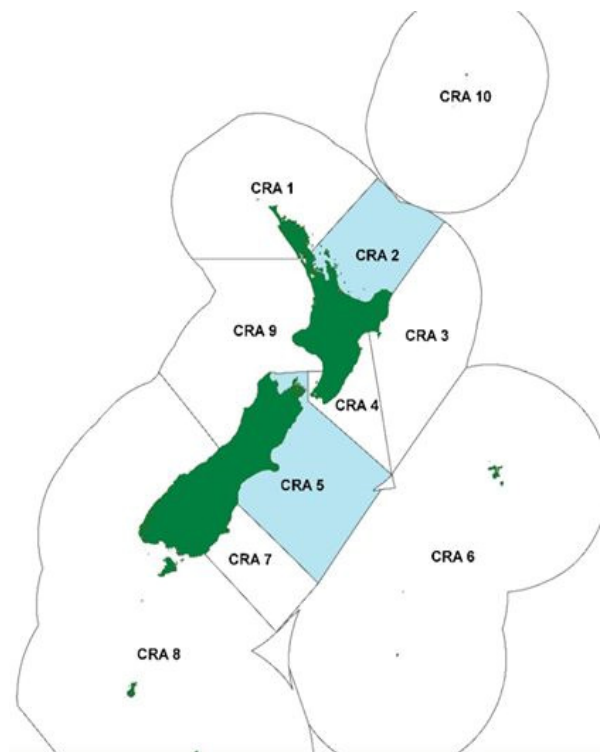


It is important to note before commenting that the commercial sector has taken a 60% cut in CRA 2.

**These rules come into play July 1 2020.**

It is important that we are all up to scratch on the rules, so let your mates know who you think may be impacted by these changes.

**Cheers!**



<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/40625/direct>

A chuckle for you all

A little boy had never seen a horse & cart until his family moved to a country town. One day there appeared outside his home a milk float pulled by a horse. He stared in disbelief for some minutes.

When the milkman returned, the little boy said: 'You won't get very far!'

'Why not?' enquired the milkman, somewhat puzzled.

'All the petrol's just run out & gone down the drain'.



# You've got a friend in the sea: Aquarium is forced to hire an extra diver to 'cuddle' with sharks as fish become 'lonely' and stop eating without human interaction

By [Australian Associated Press](#)

Lonely fish at an aquarium are being cuddled to help them get through their [coronavirus](#) lockdown-induced gloom.

In pre-pandemic times, seas of people would walk through the Cairns Aquarium doors each day to peer into the tanks.

That interaction amuses the aquatic creatures inside, including the sharks, groupers, stingrays and the Humphead Maori wrasse.

But since being forced to close amid the pandemic, aquarium staff have noticed the fish are looking for people and has had to take on an extra diver to keep them company.

Cairns Aquarium has been forced to hire a third diver to increase the amount of human interaction after fish were left lonely during the pandemic. Pictured: Cairns Aquarium.



One fish named 'Chang' (pictured) loves watching people and stopped eating for several weeks after the centre closed

'We've got these leopard sharks, and they almost like being held or cuddled like puppy dogs,' Cairns Aquarium chief executive Daniel Leipnik told AAP.

'We normally have two divers, we now have three. So there's a bit more human contact going on, just to create that extra stimulation.'

Some of the fish stopped eating and began hiding in the dark corners of their tanks when the aquarium closed.

Cairns Aquarium chief executive Daniel Leipnik said residents such as the leopard sharks love to be held or cuddled like puppy dogs. Pictured: Children at the aquarium pre-lockdown

One 'people-watcher' in particular, a Queensland Grouper named Chang, was particularly hard hit.

'He's a very inquisitive fish with quite a strong personality, and he does love to stare at people,' marine biologist and aquarium curator Paul Barnes told AAP.

'It's even the same for the divers in the tanks - he wants to come right up and have a good look and follow people around sometimes.'





'He sulked a little bit for one to two weeks, and during that period of time he stopped eating.'

Chang is 'not skinny by any means' so aquarium staff weren't too concerned about his temporary lack of appetite.

With the aquarium closed until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic the centre has been left largely empty of people

Staff will start to eat their lunch near the tanks in the weeks before the doors open again to get them used to people once again.

'We'll go sit there and have a chat with them from the outside,' Mr Barnes said.

When the aquarium does reopen, staff hope visitors might join the fish for lunch themselves after coming to better understand their intelligence and sensitive nature.

'They really have got brain power, they seem to have emotions, and they connect with people,' Mr Leipnik said.



## **Divers face long-term health impact from COVID-19**

By [Michael Klein](#) - April 24, 2020

Doctors and scientists are learning every day about the harmful effects of COVID-19. The long-term impact of the disease on recovered patients is only slowly emerging.

First indications paint a devastating picture for a number of divers, who had seemingly recovered from the lung disease.

Dr. Frank Hartig, a senior physician at the University Clinic Innsbruck in Austria, has treated six divers who were infected with the coronavirus but had suffered only mild symptoms. None of the six had to remain in hospital and all recuperated at home.

Although all six patients were deemed clinically recovered, the long-term damage to their lungs appears irreversible, Hartig told Austria Press Agency.

CT scans of the patients' lungs revealed such an extent of damage that it makes a full recovery unlikely.

"This is shocking, we don't understand what's going on here. They are probably lifelong patients," he said.

Two of the six patients exhibited irritable lungs, similar to asthmatics. Two patients suffered a lack of oxygen supply indicative of a persistent pulmonary shunt. And scans of four patients showed significant changes to their lungs.

The images were so at odds with the healthy-looking patients sitting in front of him, Hartig said in the interview, he had to double-check with the X-ray department that the files had not been mixed-up.

The extreme cases prompted Hartig, an avid diver himself, to write an article for German-language dive publication *Wetnotes* to warn divers of the potential long-term health damage of the coronavirus.

In the article, the head of the accident and emergency department at the clinic in Innsbruck advises that divers who have contracted COVID-19 in the past must consult a dive physician before entering the water again, even if they only had mild symptoms.

Hartig said it is now certain that patients who feel fully recovered can still suffer from severe effects of the lung disease weeks and months later, prohibiting diving and many other forms of exercise.

Professional divers, like dive instructors or commercial divers, should do everything they can to avoid a coronavirus infection, he wrote.

One particular problem in severe cases appears to be related to the treatment with oxygen. In his article, Hartig outlines how many patients who were given oxygen saw their blood levels initially improve, only to suffer lung failure a short time later, forcing a transfer to the intensive care unit. Many doctors have the feeling that oxygen causes a cascading domino effect, he said.

Sensitivity to higher oxygen levels after COVID-19 can become a problem for divers who are using nitrox. This mixture of nitrogen and oxygen, sometimes called enriched air, uses a higher share of oxygen than in regular air, typically 32% to 36% compared to the regular 21%, to reduce some of the side effects of breathing nitrogen under water.

Scientific studies confirming these limited clinical observations are not expected before next year.



Kia ora Denis, (Just came in to include 28.5.20).

**Today we launch Rescue Fish.**

After more than three years of development Rescue Fish encapsulates what LegaSea stands for - more fish in the sea and a healthy marine environment. It's likely these are the reasons why you subscribed to our newsletter, why you donate to our cause and put your trust in us to achieve a pathway to more abundant and healthier fish life.

Covid-19 has demonstrated that New Zealanders can pull together to achieve an objective many would have thought impossible.

Our current fisheries management system is failing us. There is widespread concern about declining fish stocks and the biodiversity loss in our marine landscape.

**Rescue Fish is possible. It's time for change:**

1. Let's restore fish populations.
2. The Government must dismantle the failing Quota Management System and ban destructive fishing techniques such as bottom trawling, dredging and the routine dumping of perfectly good fish in order to chase low value export returns.
3. Let's look after each other. Food security relies on having enough fish to feed our people.
4. Now more than ever our economy needs to be based on sustainable income and real growth, that comes with supporting small scale fishing in regional communities.



5. Let's make good on the commitments made with Maori through the Treaty of Waitangi. Rescue Fish presents a vision for the wellbeing of our fish and all New Zealanders who treat this country and our seas as their home. This is our time to Rescue Fish.

Visit the Rescue Fish [website](#), sign the [petition](#), and have your voice heard.

*"I support reforms to replace the Quota Management System so we can ban coastal trawling, enjoy a healthier marine environment, boost regional economies and enhance food security."* - [Rescue Fish Petition](#)



We need your help and together our voices will be heard.

Thank you

Trish and the whole crew at LegaSea

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<p><b>North Shore Scuba Centre</b>  Air Technology Limited HIGH PRESSURE COMPRESSOR SPECIALISTS</p> <p><b>HASAN SOYKAN</b> Dive Shop Manager</p> <p>5/20 Constellation Drive, Mairangi Bay, Auckland, New Zealand P.O. Box 305 065, Triton Plaza, Auckland 0757, New Zealand Tel: 09 478-6220 Fax: 09 478-6221 email: hasan@airtec.co.nz website: www.divecompressors.co.nz</p>	<p><b>Dive Centre LTD.</b> divecentre.co.nz</p> <p><b>MALCOLM KIDD</b> Managing Director, PADI Instructor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZ's longest running dive store</li> <li>NZ's widest range of diving, snorkelling, and swimming gear</li> <li>NZ's largest purpose-built diver training pool</li> <li>NZ's highest quality PADI courses</li> </ul>
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<p><b>DIVE HQ</b> WESTHAVEN AUCKLAND CITY</p> <p>Michael O'Loughlin-Owner Dive HQ Westhaven 101 Beaumont St., Westhaven, Auckland CBD, NZ 09 307 3590 / 021 0250 8890 www.divehqwesthaven.co.nz m.lhoel@divehqwesthaven.co.nz</p>	<p><b>GLOBAL DIVE</b> Dive Training, Equipment and Travel</p> <p><b>Andrew Simpson</b> Manager mob (021) 233 8763 andrew@globaldive.net</p> <p>6/1 Westhaven Drive Westhaven, Auckland Aotearoa, New Zealand ph (09) 920 5200 fx (09) 360 8321 www.globaldive.net</p>
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**Stay Safe All - remember the rules & pay your Subs please**

**Any articles from any club members are always welcomed**