

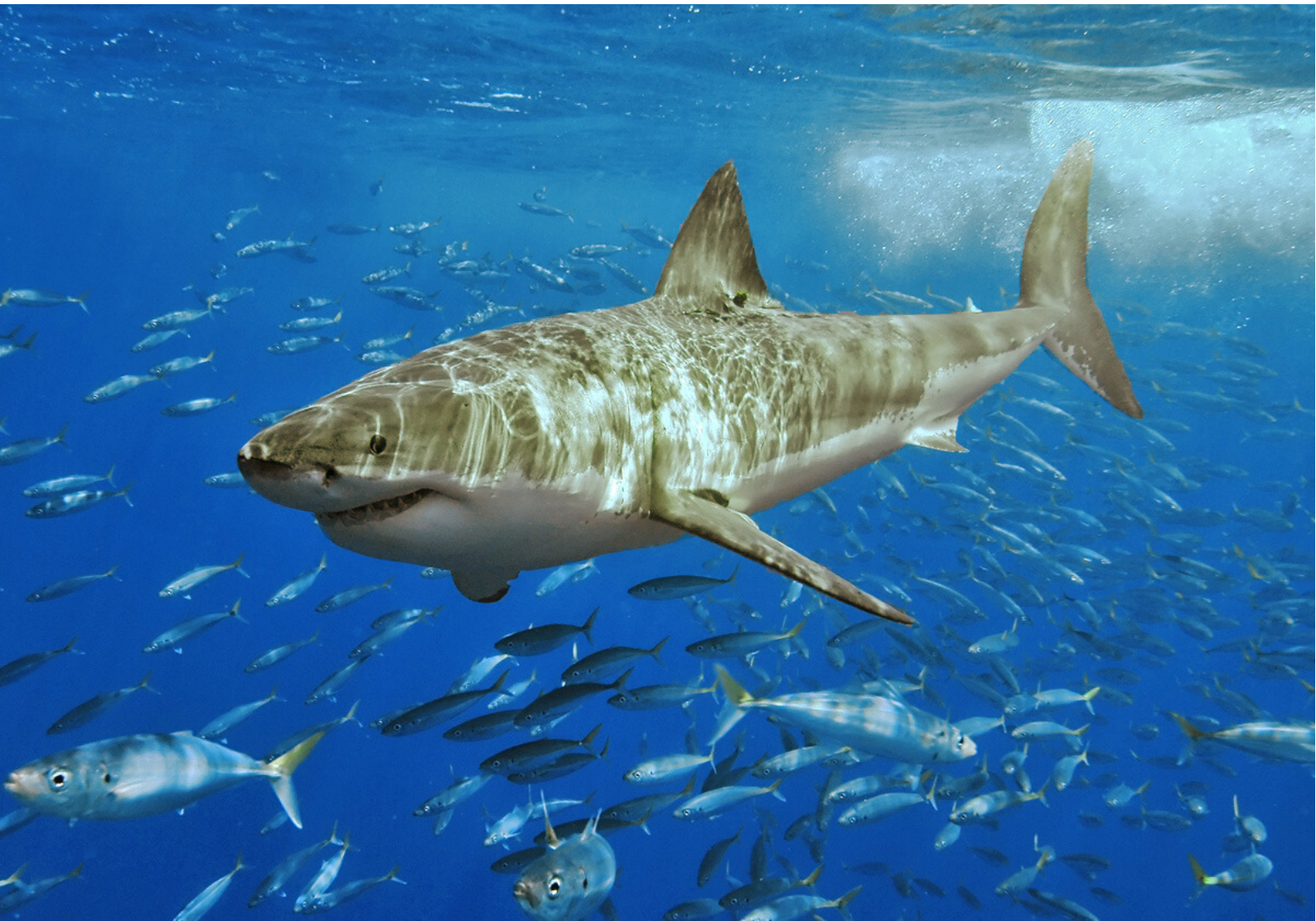
NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club Newsletter February 2021

Club Meeting: Wed 10th February 2021

Club Rooms : 7:00pm

Guest speaker: BBQ for New Year & Guest speaker- Nick Wyatt

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: 2020/2021

President/Editor	Denis Adams	0278 970 922	da.triden@gmail.com
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Sec/Treasurer backup	Trish Mahon-Adams	0272 715 410	t.triden@gmail.com
Committee	John Freeman	021 983 610	john@witblitz.net
Web Site	Matt Gouge	021 0777 282	mattgouge@gmail.com
Dive Trips Organiser	Vacant – Note any Club member is welcome to arrange one		
Adventure Trips	Martin Saggars	410 2363	saggersmar1@orcon.net.nz
	Kate Ellis	410 2363	kate65nz@orcon.net.nz
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:- Great White – Cool photo by Unknown

What's on our coming agenda?

An update with things coming up including our first Dive Club Meeting for 2021. We have a few new Members coming along, please make them feel welcome. Mark the following dates on your calendar. There will be more events and I will forward out as I hear about them.

As soon as the borders open we will be re-organising our Fiji trip. Let's hope we don't have to wait until 2022. I will let you know when things are in the pipeline. There is also an overseas trip in 2022 to Sorong on a live aboard in Western Indonesia, details below.

10th February – Wednesday – 7.00pm – Dive Club Meeting - Club Rooms - Northcote Road Extension – BBQ - Welcome back everyone, bring your holiday photos and a salad and desert to share. The Club will provide sausages, or if you prefer bring your own steak. We will also have some representatives from Auckland Scuba joining us.

13th February – 10.30am – Dive the Lake and Quarry – Clean-up day around the Club Rooms followed by a BBQ. Bring your gloves if land based, we will have clean sacks. If diving bring your catch bag to bring out the rubbish. There will be a back-up kayak and small boat. The Club will provide sausages, bread, sauce etc for a BBQ. A fun family day, everyone welcome.

13th – 14th February – 8am - Diving Bay of Islands – Rainbow Warrior and Canterbury wrecks – with Performance Diver - \$185 for one day or \$320 for both days – call the shop to book 09 489772 check out their website <https://www.performancediver.co.nz/Dive+Trips++Events/All+Upcoming+Dive+Trips.html>

14th February – Sunday - Stand up Paddle and Kayak day in Okura – 8am start – for all details and to book your place check out the Experiencing Marine Reserves website <https://www.emr.org.nz/index.php/events/snorkel-days-emr/icalrepeat.detail/2021/02/14/351/-/okura-kaitiaki-day>

Some of the volunteers helping EMR on Waiheke – more Dive Club Members getting involved. A lot of fun.

16th February – Tuesday 8.15am - Diving Poor Knights with Yukon Dive – \$200 with own gear - If keen for a week day dive give me a ring. There are several from the Club interested in doing a mid-week dive. If a few more join in the boat will be G Force, a smaller group will be on the Arrow. Ring Jo on 021 261179 to book.

20th February – Saturday – 11am – Snorkelling and exploring the Otata Island in the Noises - Experiencing Marine Reserves – ferry leaving from Okahu Bay Wharf – this is not a free day the ferry is \$75 plus a small booking fee. <https://www.emr.org.nz/index.php/events/snorkel-days-emr/icalrepeat.detail/2021/02/20/356/-/inner-gulf-adventure-snorkel>

20th – 21st February – Bay of Islands with Northland Dive – book through Global Dive – weekend trip \$387 for dorm accommodation – only one place left – ring [09 9205200](tel:099205200) to secure this spot or book online <https://www.globaldive.net/page/trip/id/ab82b868-7633-11e5-8695-8863dfceff2f>

27th – 28th February – Bay of Islands with Northland Dive – book through Global Dive – weekend trip \$387 for dorm accommodation – 8 places left – ring [09 9205200](tel:099205200) to secure this spot or book online <https://www.globaldive.net/page/trip/id/ab82b868-7633-11e5-8695-8863dfceff2f>

2nd to 8th March – Fiordland – Diving Dusky and Doubtful Sounds - Book direct with Dive Zone in Tauranga. <https://www.divezonetauranga.co.nz/page/dive-fiordland/> **Total cost \$3800 pp.** \$1500 deposit to secure your booking. To book or enquire, email liz@divezonetauranga.co.nz or ring 07 578 4050 Check it out, sounds fabulous. Several Club Members would like to do this trip, who would be keen to book one for ourselves later in March?

10th March – Wednesday – 7.00pm – Dive Club Meeting - Club Rooms - Northcote Road Extension – Guest Speaker to be confirmed

13th March – Saturday – 12noon – 3pm - Sir Peter Blake Marine Education and Recreation Centre - "Sea" MERC Day! - Annual Seaweeek Family Event - There will be a range of ocean activities on offer dependent on conditions. There's a chance you could have a go at sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding or just come have a look at the educational displays and enjoy the beautiful facility by the sea. Bring your togs & a towel! Donations welcome – further details on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/229441645411048>

13th March – Saturday – Snorkel Goat Island with Experiencing Marine Reserves – further details to come

10th March – Wednesday – 7.00pm – Dive Club Meeting - Club Rooms - Northcote Road Extension – Guest Speaker to be confirmed

20th March – Saturday - Snorkel Kai Iwi Lakes with Experiencing Marine Reserves – Camping accommodation and night snorkel if you travel up on Friday night. I will forward details as soon as they are available to book for this event. Check out the website <https://www.emr.org.nz/index.php/events/snorkel-days> for other snorkel days around the Country.

20th – 21st March - Poor Knights Live Aboard – with Waiheke Dive and Snorkel – Diving with Northland Dive – the boat ‘Sun Spy’ - \$560 . To book <https://www.waihekedive.com/products/the-poor-knights-liveaboard?fbclid=IwAR0ay1H42h4zN2uRSe2PhjXEL47eYpJk5jOGHBe8OGTiOkoIB1tzqcR1RPI> (This trip is full) phone Adam on 09-217 4892 for further details and availability on other trips.

10th April – Saturday – Snorkel Hen and Chicken Islands with Experiencing Marine Reserves – further details to come

15th May – Saturday – Snorkel Poor Knight Islands with Experiencing Marine Reserves – further details to come

29th – 30th May - Poor Knights Live Aboard – with Waiheke Dive and Snorkel – Diving with Northland Dive – the boat ‘Sun Spy’ - \$560 with 8 places still available. To book <https://www.waihekedive.com/products/the-poor-knights-liveaboard?fbclid=IwAR0ay1H42h4zN2uRSe2PhjXEL47eYpJk5jOGHBe8OGTiOkoIB1tzqcR1RPI> or phone Adam on 09-217 4892 for further details and available trips.

30th March – 8th April 2022 – Live aboard to Western Indonesia on the Lady Denok - The plan is to arrive in Sorong around the 16-23rd March and do a guided kayak around Misool or an Outer Island, plus some homestay.

(Approx cost \$1700 for the week). Then get picked up for 10 days live aboard ending in Ambon. (Approx cost \$4300) **All covid vaccine dependant of course.** Jeremy Graham is organizing this trip with his brother. The first preliminary enquiries leaving another 6-10 berths available to fill by Graham and/or the boat. Graham did Flores to Ambon with them a few years back and said it was the best. Details of Lady Denok ladydenok.com millekul.se

Google Raja Ampat and the Banda sea, the videos give a good idea of what diving is like there. Lady Denok – Beautiful Phinisi in Indonesia ladydenok.com Contact Jeremy 027 5945520 or jeremy.graham@kinect.co.nz

You will need to contact the shops

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

Sun – 9:00am 13th Dec – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sun – 9:00am 20th Dec – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sat - 9:00am 13th Jan – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

Sun – 9:00am 17th Jan – Local boat dive departing Takapuna or Omaha

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

Wed 9th Dec – Poor knights Is day trip w/Yukon Dive

Sat 12th Dec – Mokohinaus Islands

Sat 12th- Sun 13th Dec – Bay of Islands Weekend

Sat 19th Dec – Scuba Saturday Leigh Coast

Mon 4th Jan – Poor knights Is day trip w/Yukon Dive

Sat 9th Jan – Poor knights Is day trip w/Yukon Dive

Sat 9th – 10th Jan – Poor knights Is 2 day Liveaboard trip w/ND

Sun 10th Jan – Poor knights Is day trip w/Yukon Dive Sun

Mon 11th Jan – Poor knights Is day trip w/Yukon Dive

Sat 5th Dec – Scuba Saturday Leigh Coast

Sat 12th- Sun 23rd Jan – Bay of Islands Weekend

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 - financial members will be charged an extra \$10 on trips.**

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

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
Club Membership also includes Affiliation to the New Zealand Underwater Association

Dive Accident Case Studies: Rapid Ascents



[Megan Denny](#)

The scenarios below are based on [real-life diving incidents documented by Divers Alert Network](#) (DAN).

Lost Weight Belt Causes Runaway Ascent

During the end of a dive, a diver unexpectedly lost her weight belt and began a rapid ascent to the surface from 20ft (6m). “I exhaled and dumped air from my dry suit as quickly as possible and tried to flare my body to increase drag. My dive buddy tried to grab me but I was dragging him up too,” the diver reported.

The buddy team aborted their dive and swam to shore. Luckily, neither the diver nor her buddy reported any injuries.

Notes from DAN:

A lost weight belt need not cause a rapid uncontrolled ascent. Putting a lot of weight on a single belt is akin to putting all of one’s eggs in a basket. It may also increase the tension on the buckle, making it more likely to open unexpectedly.

On the upside, this diver attempted to flare out and increase her drag, to slow her ascent. In the face of an uncontrolled ascent this was the best course of action to take, and may have prevented the incident from becoming more serious.

If the diver had a BCD with integrated weights, the weight could be distributed between non-droppable rear pockets, a weight-belt, the two integrated pouches. Steel tanks and weight harnesses are other ways of distributing the required weight between different locations.

*Uncontrolled ascents are relatively rare but when they do occur, every diver should remember the first rule of diving: **Never hold your breath!***

Unintended Rapid Ascent Due to Uncontrolled Inflation

On the seventh day of a liveaboard trip, a diver’s low pressure inflator unexpectedly stuck in the on position. The diver rapidly ascended from 93 ft (28m) to the surface in about 15 seconds.

“[The incident occurred] on my 18th dive of a seven-day diving trip. We had been diving nitrox at approximately a 32% mix all week.” the diver explained. “I hit the inflator button on my new BCD; it jammed and shot me straight up to the surface...despite me frantically pulling on the shoulder mounted dump valve. There was so much noise and so many bubbles surrounding me and obscuring my vision that I probably could not have disconnected the inflator hose even if I had thought to do so. I broke the surface, was picked-up by the dive skiff and the driver immediately started me on a DAN bottle of oxygen which I continued to breathe from after returning to the boat.”

The incident occurred during the first dive of the day, about 20 minutes into the dive. The diver remained out of the water, drank plenty of fluids and stayed out of the sun for the remainder of the day and reported, “virtually no after effects” from the experience.



Notes from DAN:

This diver was very fortunate that this unforeseeable event happened during the first dive of the day, after only 20 minutes, and while breathing nitrox. However, given that it was the diver's 18th dive in a week and this took place in a remote locale, it was prudent to breathe oxygen, maintain adequate hydration and forego the rest of the day's diving.

During diver training it is common to practice quickly disconnecting an inflator hose in case such a runaway inflation were to occur. There is something to be said in favor of all divers regularly practicing this skill at the end of a dive, while at the surface. The more often a diver tries to quickly disconnect the inflator hose then the faster the diver will become at achieving it.

Savvy Diver Prevents Uncontrolled Ascent

A diver experienced a rapid ascent when diving a site for the first time. The incident occurred during the first dive of the day in an unexpectedly strong current. Here is the rescuer's account of what happened:

“I regularly dive with a small group of experienced divers off a privately owned boat. We are part of a group on Meetup.com, and occasionally others join us for a dive. A diver with advanced open-water certification and about 30 dives joined us for an after-work dive on the Jim Torgerson (RSB-1) wreck. The current was strong enough that some divers familiar with this site complained about it.

“The new diver was struggling as he went down along the anchor line with his buddy. A few minutes into my dive, I heard a rapid tank tapping, and another diver pointed to the new diver ascending from the wreck far from the anchor line. He was buoyant and gaining speed.

“I was diving with a SS Minnus dive propulsion vehicle ([DPV](#)) and was able to quickly ascend and bring him back to the anchor line. If I had not grabbed him, he would have done an uncontrolled ascent and surfaced in current, unable to get back to the boat on his own.”

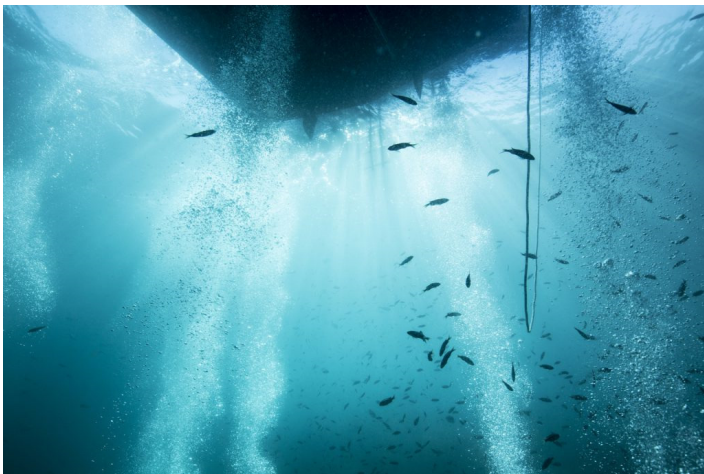


Photo: Tod Warren

Notes from DAN:

This was a typical case of a diver diving beyond his training and experience. Informal dive groups are likely to overlook this issue because of respect for autonomy and freedom. While each diver is responsible for himself, everybody in the group would be affected in case of a dive accident; thus, divers in the group have the right to check each other's competency. It is not impolite; it is a part of the safe dive culture. Buddy systems among divers who are strangers to each other often fail. It happened in this case, too.

For the buddy system to work, divers need to establish rules before the dive, be comfortable about the other diver's skills and agree to a common dive plan. When diving in a strong current such as in this case, a buddy check at surface before descent is often impossible. Thus, it is more important to have a good pre-dive conversation and complete cross-checking.

Another diver in this group most likely saved the life of this inexperienced diver. The rescuer probably would not have succeeded without using the scooter, which enabled him to catch up with the ascending diver before he got too shallow and bring him back to a safe depth. An exerted diver experiencing an emergency ascent often ends up with lung barotrauma, arterial gas embolism and drowning. Experienced divers in informal groups should not keep to themselves. Instead, they should volunteer their advice for the good of the entire group.

10 Reasons to Date a Diver



[Brooke Morton](#)

We all know the feeling of attraction. And how it gets so much sweeter when we discover that the object of our affection dives. Instantly, they become somehow even more attractive. Dating a diver means a deeper (pun intended) connection in a relationship. Here's what else it means.

You'll be capable of intimacy everywhere, even underwater.

How great is it to have a dive buddy who understands all your expressions, even when underwater? With one look, your partner would know when you're suggesting that a diver nearby could use some help, or that you'd like for your partner to come see something that's important to you.

You'll always have backup when it comes to prepping or washing gear.

Being responsible for everything — picking up tanks, washing gear, grabbing snacks for the dive boat — gets old when you're doing everything all the time. With a partner, you'll cut the workload in half. Divide and conquer! Leaving more time for the fun stuff.

You'll share a sense of wonder at the small things.

Taking the time to appreciate the small joys of life — be it seeing bioluminescence in the water at night or encountering a turtle in the first few minutes of a dive — adds happiness and serenity to life. And it's hard to share that gratitude with someone who doesn't get it.



Your dive stories won't fall on deaf ears.

Dating a non-diver seems to involve often saying, "Guess you had to be there" But recounting a crazy dive story to a diver won't end with the tale falling flat. More likely, that story will be met with similar enthusiasm and follow-up questions.

You'll speak the same language.

Safety stop, narced, buoyancy. These are all words we take for granted among our people. When chatting with non-divers, we have to pause to explain these terms and beyond. Dive people just get it. Period.

You won't fight over where to vacation.

Some couples alternate between destinations, i.e. mountains, then the beach. Not only will you two share a similar mindset about where to vacation, you'll also be of the same mind when you have a free day or afternoon in a new location.

You'll make memories together.

Sure, there's nothing wrong with each partner having his or her own hobby, but sharing a passion strengthens any pairing. When you look back on your time together, there's added magic to remembering that amazing sunset in Tahiti on the dive boat, or that shark dive in the Bahamas.



Nobody will complain that your dive "junk" takes up too much room in the closet.

When our partners don't share our hobbies, they resent that our gear takes up too much room in the house. Ugh. Yes, we really do need all six wetsuits and three pairs of fins.

You can enjoy the added bonus of seeing your partner in a wetsuit.

Some people find high heels sexy. For some, it's a white T-shirt and jeans. For divers, it's a wetsuit, no? There's an inherent appeal to seeing someone in neoprene, and even better when they've peeled off the top half between dives (insert smirk emoji). Bonus: Some people even love the smell of neoprene (the kind that hasn't been peed on).

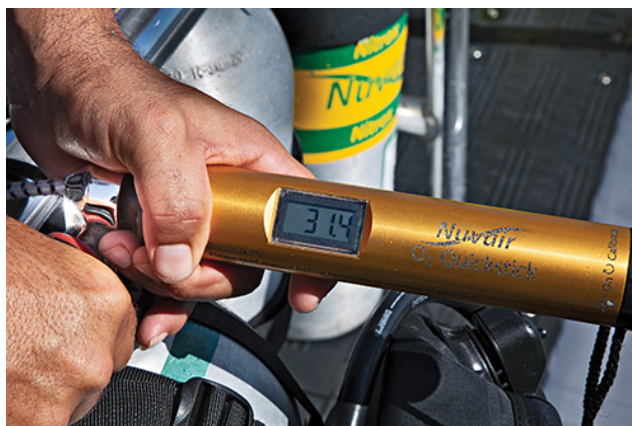
Need help convincing your significant other to get certified? Check out with. <https://blog.padi.com/2017/02/06/4-ways-help-someone-fall-love-diving/>

And from Margaret

Dear Margaret,

Welcome to the first DAN E-Newsletter for 2021. In this issue, we address a member question asking whether nitrox will prevent a recurrence of DCS.

DAN recently conducted our first webinar for 2021, which you can watch on DAN's YouTube Channel. The webinar addresses [Emergency Planning: Who is Responsible for Your Safety](#), and is presented by DAN's Director of Risk Mitigation Francois Burman, Pr. Eng., M.Sc.



Diving After DCS

I am planning to return to diving after a mild case of cutaneous decompression sickness (DCS), or "skin bends." If I dive using nitrox, will that be enough to prevent recurrence of DCS?

Conservative diving is strongly recommended to avoid a repeat DCS incident. Cutaneous DCS has about a 20 percent chance of having a neurological component. The next event could be similar to this one or be significantly more severe. Diving conservatively, however, involves more than simply switching to nitrox. Consider the following recommendations:

- Dive with nitrox, but set your computer to "air" or "21 percent." Clearly note the maximum operating depth (MOD) for the mix you're actually breathing, and never exceed that depth. Use a partial pressure of oxygen (PPO2) setting of 1.4 or lower to avoid oxygen toxicity. If you reset your computer to a nitrox setting, then your potential bottom time will be calculated as longer and defeat the purpose of minimising gas loading. Nitrox is only safer if you shorten bottom times.
- Spend an extended period at less than 9 metres, and add long safety stops to allow offgassing prior to surfacing. Extra stop time in shallow water is an effective way to

reduce decompression stress and the likelihood of bubble formation.

- Select the most conservative setting on your computer to limit bottom time.
- Use a slow ascent rate of 6 to 9 metres per minute.
- Extend your surface interval, especially after long, deep and repetitive dives.
- Avoid exercise and load lifting in post-dive hours, and do not engage in intense physical training for 24 hours after diving; perform only low-intensity exercise within that period.
- While diving, minimise your exercise intensity, and avoid overheating during the deepest parts of the dive.
- Take warm showers, enjoy the pool after diving, but avoid hot showers and hot tubs.

Being conservative is a trade-off. Divers want to maximise their bottom time to get the most out of every dive, but that maximum bottom time is also maximum inert gas (nitrogen) loading. Remain well rested and hydrated, and dive with a partner who has similar goals and follows similar practices. Adding small safety margins to each step can help provide a comfortable security cushion. Dive computers are powerful tools, but sound knowledge of diving physiology, good physical conditioning and adherence to thoughtful practices offer the best protection for divers. Every diver is unique, with varying susceptibility to decompression stress. Ultimately, only you can determine how much risk you want to take.

— Frances Smith, EMT-P, DMT

If you need us, please call us on +61-3-9886 9166 (Monday-Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm AEST) or send an email to infoap@dan.org.

The DAN World Team

And from LEGASEA

Kia ora Denis,

Coromandel residents are concerned about the noticeable decline of scallop numbers on the eastern side of the Peninsula. This is likely due to years of unconstrained harvest and destructive dredging, which decimates scallops and crabs, crustaceans, other shellfish and sea life that inhabit the seafloor.

Opito Bay ratepayers have tried to engage with Fisheries New Zealand over their concerns about scallops for several years, without success.

Now, banding together, locals have initiated a programme to restore the scallop beds. It begins by asking everyone over the summer period not to harvest scallops. To give them a break.

The request for everyone to respect a voluntary no take of scallops is followed by a survey to establish how many scallops actually remain in Opito Bay. This survey was officially launched at a ceremony this morning by Ngāti Hei.

"Ngāti Hei people have been aware of the depletion for a long time. We haven't had scallops wash up onto Kūaotunu Beach in over 10 years so we are pleased the community is willing to contribute to their restoration by surveying scallop numbers and supporting a rāhui," says Ngāti Hei kaumatua, Joe Davis.

The survey results, which will be available in the new year, will help inform Ngāti Hei and the local community as they look to impose the rāhui, which will ban the harvest of scallops from the Opito Bay area. The community supports this approach, with over 90% of ratepayers supporting an immediate voluntary ban on taking scallops from Opito Bay and surrounding waters.

Earlier this month a letter outlining the community's concerns was sent to David Parker, the Minister of Oceans and Fisheries. In addition to Ngāti Hei and Opito Bay Ratepayers Association, the Mercury Bay Sport Fishing Club, Tairua-Pauanui Sport Fishing Club, Whangamata Ocean Sports Club, New Zealand Underwater Association and Spearfishing NZ, New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea all signed the letter.

"We advised the Minister that we have watched the scallop beds in Opito Bay diminish in size and abundance over the years. But we're not alone, the scallop beds in the surrounding area are also depleted, so those fishers are now heading into Opito Bay looking for any remnants. It's just not sustainable," says Opito Bay Ratepayers Association chair, Chris Severne.

Dive Zone Whitianga will conduct the scallop survey immediately on behalf of the community, with the support of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and its public awareness group LegaSea.

Earlier this year, in a proactive move, the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council endorsed a policy encouraging recreational fishers to dive for scallops and not scallop dredge.

"Our community is increasingly concerned about the deteriorating state of inshore waters, we know seafloor organisms are crucial to the overall health of the marine environment so it's exciting to see our members embracing progressive policy and encouraging change." says New Zealand Sport Fishing Council president Bob Gutsell.

LegaSea is concerned that unconstrained commercial fishing combined with the ongoing use of the Victorian Box Dredge as the harvest method of choice has altered the state of the seafloor.

"Commercial catch limits have remained high while actual harvest declines. This is a failure of the Quota Management System. Mismanagement of scallops has seen the local commercial fleet dwindle from a peak of 23 boats, down to four this season," says LegaSea spokesperson Sam Woolford.

"This is clearly not economically or environmentally sustainable. We hope commercial interests will see the value in a conservative approach and join the community in giving the scallops a break over this summer.

"While the Quota Management System is failing Kiwis, it's motivating to see that the local community rallying together and taking control to ensure their scallop beds are not wiped out like we have already seen in the Marlborough Sounds, Tasman and Golden Bays, and the Kaipara Harbour."

And again from Legasea

Kia ora Denis,

As people become more frustrated with the lack of government action to protect our coastal marine environments, more communities are taking action. In the last two months two iwi have enacted rāhui to protect coastal sealife and rebuild abundance.

LegaSea believes these community responses reflects problems with the way that Fisheries New Zealand and the Quota Management System do not serve New Zealanders. As frustrations about the lack of any meaningful official response increases, community action will likely increase.

Waiheke Rāhui

Ngāti Pāoa has enacted a 2-year rāhui closure around the entire coastline of Waiheke Island in the Hauraki Gulf. The rāhui bans all take of four species - Crayfish, scallops, pāua, and mussels.

A rāhui in this sense is described as a customary practise prohibiting access to an area or resources, in order to restore ecosystem health.

Ngāti Pāoa and the Waiheke community have been concerned for a long time about depleting shellfish stocks. LegaSea and the fishing community are pleased to support Ngāti Pāoa in exercising their customary rights to ensure more effective management of these species.



Representatives from LegaSea, the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and Papatūānuku Kōkiri marae joined the community in attending the dawn rāhui ceremony at Oneroa Beach on Sunday 31st January. Everyone was then invited to Piritahi marae for a hangi, a powerful relationship building opportunity enjoyed by all fortunate enough to have attended.

Read the LegaSea press release [here](#).



Seaweek 2021: Saturday 6th to Sunday 14th March!

Kia ora Seaweek Supporters!

Happy New Year! Seaweek 2021 is fast approaching, and while we will focus a lot of energy on that one *week*, this year we are stretching the celebration out to include more meaningful engagements during the whole month of March!

We would also like to announce the launch of the national Seaweek *Ocean Champion Challenge – Moana Toa Whakatara* - a call for all environmental heroes to share with us what actions they are taking to help solve a problem impacting the marine environment.

For this year's entry into the Ocean Champion Challenge, we invite you share your story in a *short* video or photo slideshow of your efforts and what inspires you to protect/restore our marine environment.

There are two award categories – *Youth* (for entrants under 16) and *Adult* (for any entrants over 16 years old). All entries will all go into a prize draw for a selection of fantastic spot prizes from various sponsors and there is a \$500 cash prize for the *Adult* finalist, sponsored by New Zealand Coastal Society.

The theme this year is: **Connecting with our Seas; Toi Moana ~ Toi Tangata** - highlighting the diverse connections and interactions we have with the sea. There are many ways to get involved and you can find full details on our new website which will be launching soon!



Interconnectedness: life on earth is dependent on healthy ecosystems, in the ocean and on land.

Experiences empower action: education and hands-on experiences inspire and help to identify what we can do to help protect our seas.

Recreate responsibly: be safe and aware on and near the sea, respect the ocean - value kaitiakiatanga.

RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

be safe & aware near the sea, respect the ocean,
value kaitiakiatanga.



Connecting With Our Seas

Toi Moana ~ Toi Tangata

Sat. 6 to Sun. 14 March 2021



Thank you Foundation North for supporting Seaweek again!! We are so grateful for the much needed funding which will help us launch a fresh website and help to cover event and coordination expenses in Northland and Auckland.

Our new webpage is still being developed - up and ready to go! So we ask that if you do have an event planned and ready to enter for promotion on our website, hold on to those details and you will be able to get it up there for everyone to see end of January!

[Visit the Seaweek Website](#)

Seaweek's mission is to inspire New Zealanders to experience, connect with, and celebrate the sea. It is an annual opportunity to learn about the social responsibility we have; to take care of our seas and get involved in collective actions to promote a healthy marine environment.

Stop Press

Congratulations to our web site manager, Matt Gouge & Becky on the birth of their daughter Evelyn. Plus Life Members, Margaret & Peter Howard on their 54th wedding anniversary.

PERFORMANCE NZ Ltd *Diver*

John Haynes

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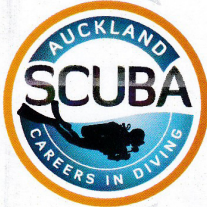


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Stay Safe All - remember the rules & where you are in NZ, they vary.

PS: How about some dive stories from your Xmas/New year's holidays!