

NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club Newsletter April 2022

NB: Club Meeting Postponed till 7:00pm Wednesday 18th May 2022

Guest speaker: Pot luck Dinner & Club AGM

www.dolphinunderwater.co.nz



**Club's Mail Address
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**Club Contacts Inside
Website As Above**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2021/2022

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Entertainment	Allan Dixon	021 994 593	allanandjilldixon@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:– Sue wreck diving in Samoa by Steve

NB: All attendees must have mask on entry.

April – Wednesday – No club meeting too many away on holidays etc. - Northcote Road Extension

18th May – Wednesday - 7:00pm Club Rooms – Pot Luck Dinner & Club's 68th AGM NB date change

8th June - Wednesday - 7.00pm Normal Club Meeting guest etc. tbc

16th July – Wednesday – 6.00pm – Mid-winter meal at Brown's Bay Club instead of club meeting - tbc

Dive trips available you will need to contact the shops in person to confirm

Performance Dive NZ - Ph. 489 7782. or

<https://www.performancediver.co.nz/Dive+Trips++Events/All+Upcoming+Dive+Trips.html>

Sat – Hen & Chickens Is, with Yukon Dive, \$200. Leave from Marsden cove. Contact shop

Global Dive - Ph. 920 5200. or <https://www.globaldive.net/page/trips>

Aucklandscubadive – Ph. 478 2814 or <https://www.aucklandscubadive.co.nz/dive-trips>

9th-16th July – Fiji Trip with Tauranga Dive – <https://www.divezonetauranga.co.nz/page/dive-fiji/> for details.

Cairns Live-a-board 22nd Sept 2022 from \$4849pp.

Twin share Ex Auckland – 6 nights Coral Sea & Ribbon Reefs with Mike Ball Adventures 4 days diving with up to 18 dives. 1 night in Cairns, Air fares included ex Ak – with Kiwi Divers – 09 426 9834 or 021 1507 9547 or call **Margaret for more details 0274 839 839.**

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

For the club to servive we need paid up members 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**

5 Bad Habits of Scuba Diving

Courtesy PADI October 14, 2013 PADI Diving Society

Courtesy PADI

From skipping the buddy check to miscalculating our weight needs, we all are guilty of bad diving habits from time to time.



Bad Habit #1 — Skipping the buddy check

You ask your buddy, “You ready? Yeah? Let’s go diving.” Everything seems fine until you roll off the boat and discover you forgot your fins, your buddy’s tank is loose, or something even worse is wrong.

Forgoing a buddy check takes a shortcut on safety and increases the chance that you’ll have to solve a problem in the water. You can learn more about avoiding and adapting to problems in the PADI Rescue Diver course, but the best thing to do (as we teach during the Rescue course) is prevent problems before they begin with BWRAF.

Bad Habit #2 — Shooting fish butts

Though you may have a very expensive camera rig, an expensive setup doesn’t guarantee good photos. Especially when the photographer doesn’t know underwater photo basics, or fails to practice good marine life etiquette.

I saw one diver with a top-of-the-line camera system taking a photo straight down over a coral head. I’m no photo pro, but I learned in the Digital Underwater Photography online course that shooting straight down on your subject tends to produce flat, uninteresting images. Perhaps it was an avant-garde shot.

I watched another diver race from one critter to the next — chasing off marine life as he went. The dive guides tried to counsel this diver, but he wouldn’t listen. “This is how I always dive” was his reply. I wondered how many pictures of fish butts he had ... and how he ever found a dive buddy!

Bad Habit #3 — Not wearing the right exposure protection

Every time I show up at a tropical dive destination, other divers laugh at me for wearing a 5-mil wetsuit and a beanie cap in 28C/82F water. But by wearing the exposure protection that's right for me, I never have to cut a dive short because I'm cold.

- [Here's a Guide on How Thick Your Wetsuit Should Be](#)

After a few years diving regularly in California I tried the PADI Drysuit Diver specialty and wondered, “why didn't I do this sooner?” I imagine the cafe owners on Catalina Island wondered whatever happened to that girl who asked for cups of hot water to dump down her wetsuit.

Bad Habit #4 — Wearing the incorrect amount of weight

Picture a brick, the kind used in home building. Imagine carrying it around with you all the time – taking it up stairs, trudging up a hill, etc. Having extra weight on board means your body has to work harder; your breathing will be heavier and so on.

- [How to Figure Out How Much Weight You Need for Diving](#)

When teaching the Peak Performance Buoyancy specialty course, that brick weight is (on average) the amount I take off a diver's weight belt. New divers often wear excess weight, and get used to carrying it around. But there's a major downside — too much weight can lead to excess air consumption. The extra weight means the body has to work harder to push through the water, and on top of it many divers swim continuously to keep themselves buoyant. All that extra effort drains your tank faster than necessary.

Drop that brick and extend your dive time! Review your open water materials to learn how to do a buoyancy check, or ask your instructor about the Peak Performance Buoyancy specialty course.

Bad Habit #5 — Neglecting gear service

Woe is the diver who pays half a month's salary to go on the dive trip of a lifetime and has an equipment problem.

When maintained properly, dive gear can last for years. Ask your local dive center about the Equipment Specialist course. You'll get to know your gear and learn how to perform basic maintenance yourself. That said: some equipment service must be performed by a professional. Use the gear locker section of your ScubaEarth profile to keep track of when your gear gets serviced.

Breathe easy on your next dive.

How do Aquatic Animals Get into Flooded Quarries?

In this edition of Ask a Marine Biologist, Dr. David Shiffman discusses how organisms get into isolated, human-made habitats. By [David Shiffman](#) October 9, 2021

Animals big and small can be introduced either on purpose or by accident.

[Shutterstock.com/Janik Rybickajpg](#)

Question: How are manmade water holes initially populated with invertebrates? I'm thinking of the flooded quarries I've dived over the last 47 years that have isopods, freshwater jellyfish, and more. — Ann, Pennsylvania



Answer: Isn't it fascinating to think about how organisms can move into a new habitat that didn't used to exist? Flooded quarries are basically artificial lakes, so every reason why aquatic animals (including fishes) can live there. But how do they get there? How does an animal that needs to be in water to survive arrive in an area that wasn't filled with water until recently? How did, for example, a [freshwater jellyfish native to China end up in quarries and lakes in at least 44 U.S. states?](#)

There are a lot of mechanisms by which aquatic animals can disperse like this, colonizing new habitats. After all, animals had to get to even naturally-occurring [lakes](#) at some point in the past!

First of all, while there may be many miles of dry land between the surface of a quarry and the surface of the next closest body of water, there may be groundwater connections. (In many cases, groundwater is how the quarry got flooded to begin with!) In these situations, it'd be easy for invertebrates or small fishes to simply swim from a lake or river to a nearby quarry. Similarly, a bad rainstorm can flood a lake, sending overflow water containing aquatic invertebrates to a flooded quarry.

Some organisms lay eggs which stick to plants, or even to the feet of birds which fly from quarry to lake (though there's somewhat [limited evidence](#) of bird-based dispersal, at least for fish eggs. Fish are sometimes intentionally stocked to support recreational fishing.

And those freshwater jellies? When they're tiny polyps, they live on aquatic plants. When those plants are transported to a suitable body of water (by dispersal through underwater connections, by birds or other animals carrying them, or by humans) the [jellies](#) can start their free-swimming, or "medusa," stage. Humans who move from one body of water to the next can also bring aquatic life with them unintentionally, which is why it's important to [clean, drain, and dry gear](#) (including but not limited to boats, fishing gear, and dive gear) if you're moving from one body of water to the next. While this is absolutely evidence of the power and wonder of the natural world, we should also keep in mind that it means we need to be very, very careful about unintentionally spreading invasive species.

[Ask a Marine Biologist](#) is a monthly column where Dr. David Shiffman answers your questions about the underwater world. Topics are chosen from reader-submitted queries as well as data from common internet searches. If you have a question you'd like answered in a future Ask a Marine Biologist column, or if you have a question about the answer given in this column, email Shiffman at WhySharksMatter@gmail.com with subject line "Ask a marine biologist."



Courtesy Dr. David Shiffman

Dr. David Shiffman is a marine conservation biologist specializing in the ecology and conservation of sharks. An award-winning public science educator, David has spoken to thousands of people around the world about marine biology and conservation and has bylines with the Washington Post, Scientific American, New Scientist, Gizmodo and more. Follow him on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), where he's always happy to answer any questions about sharks.

The views expressed in this article are those of David Shiffman

Sealife Sportdiver Housing for an iPhone & others

Something I've thought about, wondered & found exists, so went on line to see what's available from various NZ outlets & this appears pretty good at approx. \$500. Ed.

Description

The SeaLife SportDiver is a compact and lightweight underwater housing for most smartphones. The SportDiver housing will allow divers to take photos and video with their smartphone down to 40 meters. The SportDiver can encase most Android Phones and iPhone 7, 7 Plus, 8, 8 Plus, X, Xr, Xs, Xs Max, 11, 11 Pro Max, SE (2nd Gen), 12, 12 Mini, 12 Pro and 12 Pro Max models. The heavy-duty housing is constructed of Polycarbonate, stainless steel, aluminium and optical grade glass. And while the



SportDiver housing is heavy duty, it is not heavy, weighing less than 641 grams, and is lightweight for travelling and offers almost neutral buoyancy in water depending on which iPhone model is used.

The SportDiver is easy to hold and use and offers a large shutter lever and rear control buttons for easy operation, even with dive gloves. Snorkelers and Divers can get more creative with their photos or video shot by using advanced camera settings. Using the free SportDiver App available on the App Store or Play Store adjust Zoom, Exposure (EV), Auto/Manual Focus, White Balance, Tint, Lens selection, RAW+JPEG mode, Live Photo and Background Blur. Unlike other smartphone housing apps, there are no annoying in-app purchases or ads. You can easily switch between photo and video mode.

The App Playback mode shows full size photos and videos with vertical thumbnail strip to easily locate your images. Videos start playing automatically when selected. All files are also saved to the camera roll. The SportDiver housing automatically connects to your phone and the SportDiver app using Bluetooth Low Energy (LE) 5 wireless technology. No cables or buttons touch the phone and offers ultra-low power consumption for both the phone and the housing which is powered by two AAA batteries that last over 50 hours of continuous use.

For enhanced imaging results, a removable underwater colour-correction filter is included with the SportDiver which restores natural underwater colours. The filter easily attached or removes underwater and includes a safety tether to prevent loss. The SportDiver housing features triple 1/4-20 tripod mounts which mounts to any light or light tray with standard tripod threads such as SeaLife's range of Sea Dragon underwater photo/video lights.

For the phone's safety and protection, the SportDiver has a sturdy holding spring and rubber grip tabs that securely hold the phone in place and add shock-protection. The SportDiver has Dual Leak Alarms which include an internal moisture alarm and a vacuum pressure alarm which alert the diver with on-screen warnings, audio and LED signal in the unlikely event the waterproof seal is compromised and there's a loss of housing pressure or moisture is detected. The door of the SportDiver is sealed with a TPE O-ring and a robust cam-lock sealing latch that easily and securely locks waterproof door. To prevent interior fogging from residual moisture, the SportDiver uses the anti-fogging agent Moisture Muncher capsule which prevents fogging and internal condensation.

Features:

- **Works with most Android phones and the iPhone** 7, 7 Plus, 8, 8 Plus, X, Xr, Xs, Xs Max, 11, 11 Pro Max, SE (2nd Gen), 12, 12 Mini, 12 Pro and 12 Pro Max
- **Easy control** – Large shutter lever and rear control buttons for easy operation, even with dive gloves
- **Access popular camera settings** – Get creative with your shot by using advanced settings
- **Shoot photos or record video** – Easily switch between photo and video mode
- **Dual Leak Alarms** – Includes internal moisture alarm and internal vacuum pressure alarm
- **Removable underwater colour-correction filter** for bright, colourful underwater photos and videos
- **Includes SeaLife SportDiver camera app** – Free download
- **Bluetooth wireless technology** – Housing automatically connects to your phone
- **Holding spring and rubber grip** tabs securely holds phone in place and adds shock-protection
- **Expandable with Sea Dragon underwater photo-video lights**
- **Triple 1/4-20 tripod mounts** – Mounts to Flex-Connect or any tray with standard tripod threads
- **Cam-lock sealing mechanism** easily and securely locks waterproof door
- **Powered by two AAA batteries** that last over 50 hours of continuous use
- **Anti-fog design** when SL911 Moisture Muncher capsule is used
- **Depth rated to 130ft / 40m** – Each housing is individually depth tested
- **Playback photos and videos** – App Playback mode shows full size photos and videos with vertical thumbnail strip to easily located your shots
- **Maybe if a few club members had one of these I could have few illustrated articles for the newsletter? Ed.**

**The MAF regulations vary in particular
when it comes to your catch size/limits & locations.**

Practice being safe & staying safe for you & your buddies

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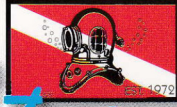
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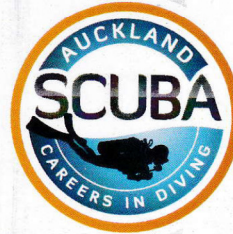
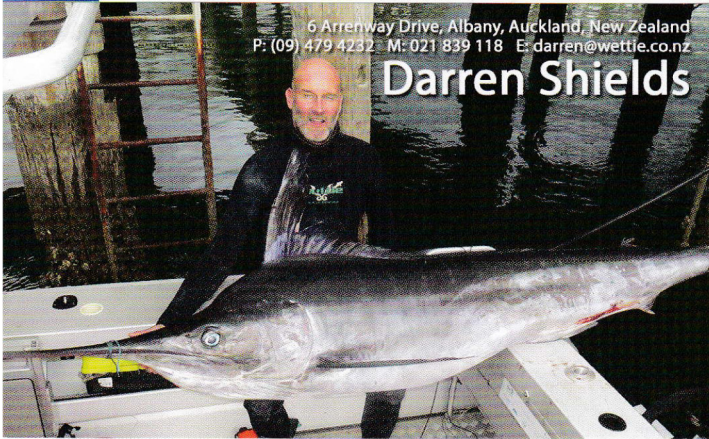
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