

NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club

Newsletter February 2024

Club Meeting 6:30pm Wed 14th February 2024

What's on : BYO - BBQ Details page 2

www.dolphinunderwater.co.nz



Club's Mail Address
14 Gails Drive
Okura
RD2 Albany



Club Contacts Inside
Website As Above

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2023/2024

President/Entertainment	Allan Dixon	021 994 593	allanandjilldixon@xtra.co.nz
Vice-President	Chris Nipper	021 991 732	akidna27@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Denis Adams	0278 970 922	da.triden@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Margaret Howard	0274 839 839	marg.howard@xtra.co.nz
Sec/Treasurer backup	Trish Mahon-Adams	0272 715 410	t.triden@gmail.com
All Trips Organiser	Margaret Howard	0274 839 839	marg.howard@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Dave Craig	021 557 588	dave.wave5@gmail.com
	Tom Butler	0278 931 936	trbutler@xtra.co.nz
	Peter Howard	0225 194 046	pete.howard@xtra.co.nz
Web Site	Matt Gouge	0210 777 282	mattgouge@gmail.com

Life Members Barry Barnes, Margaret Howard, Peter Howard, Brian Horton, Reg Lawson, Roberto Tonei, Denis Adams, Trish Mahon-Adams, Dave Quinlan

Honorary Members Graham Thumah, Tony Enderby, Jenny Enderby, Eileen Slark.

Cover Page Photo:– Chasm diving in Niue by Denis

WHAT'S ON?

14th Feb. – Wed. – 6.30pm – Club Room – BBQ Sausages provided. Bring a salad & dessert to share.

If you prefer steak etc. BYO Northcote Rd Ext'n, Takapuna.

Dive trips, NZ & Overseas – Check out the dive shop's web sites, there is plenty available, but you do need to contact the shops in person to confirm costs & booking availabilities.

Performance Dive NZ - Ph. 489 7782. or <https://www.performancediver.co.nz/Dive+Trips++Events>

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

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

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, etc.

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.**

NB: All Memberships Now Due: Single – \$40 Family- \$50.00

For the club to continue 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

Ministry for Primary Industries

⚠️ Shellfish Biotoxin Warning ⚠️

New Zealand Food Safety is advising the public not to collect or consume shellfish gathered from Blackpool and Surfdale beaches on Waiheke Island due to the presence of an algae-like organism called *Okeania* spp.

Okeania spp is a cyanobacteria that forms dark-coloured mats of slimy material when it washes up on the beach. As these cyanobacterial mats decompose, they turn into a stinky sludge. It can also produce a toxin called Lyngbyatoxin-A, which can cause skin and eye irritation and respiratory issues.

Do not collect or eat shellfish from this area. Cooking the shellfish does NOT remove the toxin. If anyone becomes ill after eating shellfish from an area where a public health warning has been issued:

📞 Phone Healthline for advice on 0800 61 11 16, or seek medical attention immediately.

🏠 Advise your nearest public health unit.

🍽️ Keep any leftover shellfish for testing.

For full details visit: <https://bit.ly/46ZA6Cb>

NB: Check this yourself as it may have been lifted or still active in some areas.

*** Fisheries closure in parts of Northland ***

A two-year fisheries closure and fishing-method prohibition at Tutukaka Harbour, Ngunguru Bay, Ngunguru River, Horahora River and surrounding areas (Rehuotane Ki Tai), in Northland starts on Monday, February 5. The closure means fishing for cockle, garfish, mussel, octopus, pāua, pipi, rock lobster, rock oyster, sea cucumber, seahorse, starfish, tuatua and several species of crab and sea snail is prohibited. These closures will help to restore those populations.

The use of fishing nets is also banned at Tutukaka Harbour, Ngunguru River and Horahora River (including the estuaries), from February 5.

Fishery Officers will be enforcing these new rules through land and sea patrols.

Further information about these rule changes can be found 📍 <https://bit.ly/49f3oya>

7 Mistakes Divers Make & How to Avoid Them



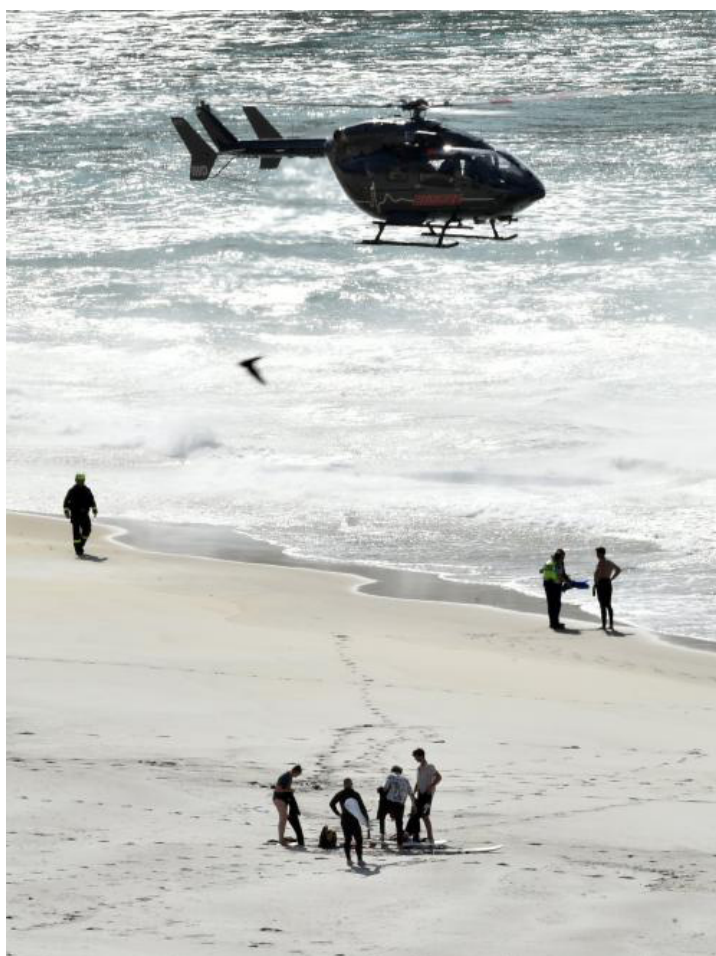
DAN's Smart Guide to Safe Diving

- Learn safety guidelines
- Become conscientious and responsible divers
- Prepare smarter so we can enjoy our dives
- Here are the top seven mistakes to avoid:

- [Neglecting Health and Fitness](#)
- [Neglecting Proper Gear Maintenance](#)
- [Insufficient Dive Planning](#)
- [Lack of Buoyancy Control](#)
- [Diving Beyond Your Training](#)
- [Running Out of Air](#)
- [Not Taking Personal Responsibility](#)

Diver swept out to sea 'did right thing'

By [Laine Priestley](#) - [News](#) [Dunedin](#)



Emergency services attended a water rescue at Smaills Beach yesterday after two paua divers ran into trouble. PHOTO: GREGOR RICHARDSON

A 60-year-old paua diver who was swept out to sea off the Dunedin coast "did the right thing" by dropping his weight belt and floating on his back, police say.

Shortly after 9am yesterday emergency services were called to Smaills Beach, in Dunedin, after two divers got in trouble in the water.

Police said the two men had been paua diving in the area when the tide changed.

A 34-year-old diver was able to make his way to shore, but the other diver, a 60-year-old man, was swept out with the tide, Senior Sergeant Anthony Bond, of Dunedin, said.

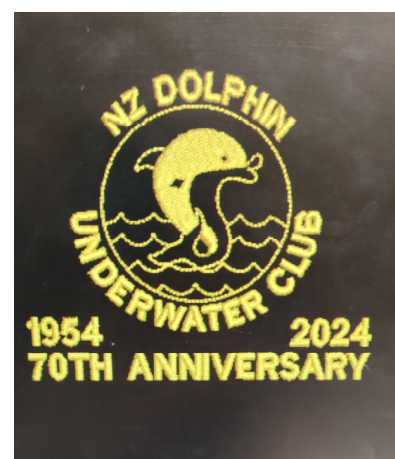
"The 60-year-old diver did the right thing and dropped his weight belt, lay on his back and trod water to conserve energy until emergency services arrived," he said.

An ambulance, surf lifesavers and a helicopter also responded to the incident.

Club matters from Margaret

I have several orders for **Club Clothing** with the 2024 anniversary logo (see attached), if you are keen please let me know your size and colour – you can bring your own garment to the next Meeting in February or if you would like me to purchase a cotton T'shirt for you, they are \$18 smaller size and \$20 larger, and polo shirts are \$28. If I get quite a few orders the logo will be \$20 per garment. Please email me your size and preferred colour. marg.howard@xtra.co.nz

Celebrating our 70th Anniversary has come up a number of times



and now the year has arrived 1954 – 2024. I have asked for interest from past Club Members etc. on who would be keen to celebrate this occasion. Who is keen? Who is keen to help organise? Who has names and recent contact details of past Members? Any suggestions for entertainment and Guest Speakers? Please let me know your thoughts and let's get something positive set up. **Mob. 0274 839839**

[Experiencing Marine Reserves](#) are very active for the next couple of months. Check out their website if you are keen to join any of their activities, either as a participant or a volunteer www.emr.org.nz The Dolphin Club have always supported such a worthy group, very rewarding.

DANGER MONEY

I make £1,700 a day doing a job nobody wants to do – I love it, but it's dangerous and most people don't know it exists.

The pay scale Bernie describes is very different to most jobs.

By [Colan Lamont](#) Published: 12:58, 17 Jan 2024 Updated: 12:58, 17 Jan 2024

A COMMERCIAL diver who can make up to £1,700 a day has revealed why he loves his job despite the fact it's one of the most dangerous on the planet.

Bernie Saupe, 43, has been in the industry for 13 years and is surprised most people haven't even heard of his [career](#).



Bernie's job has led to him travelling all over the world.



He has to take safety incredibly seriously given the nature of saturation diving.

The [Portsmouth](#)-based dad has worked in saturation diving - a type that involves spending time at extreme depths - for over a decade.

He explains that while inshore [diving](#) generally rakes £300 per day, offshore air diving is more than £600 and saturation nearly £2k.



Bernie says: "A lot of people don't even know this job exists, it's a very physically demanding job that only appeals to a certain type of person."

"It's definitely not a job for people with claustrophobia."

[I'm 21 and earn £80k a year in job nobody wants, I get four months off at a time](#)

"I love this job because I love the challenges it gives me, going to [new places all over the world](#), doing and seeing things people will never normally see."

"Along with working alongside like minded people where I've made some lifelong friends. Also I like that we get some decent time off in between jobs."

"The job is inherently dangerous but it's well managed. It can be difficult for new young divers in inshore civils as they can sometimes get pushed into doing things they shouldn't and they haven't got the experience to know any better."

"These young lads are just desperate to work as most have worked up a debt paying for their diving courses."

He adds: "In saturation most people think we live underwater when we live in mindships - in the middle of the boat generally - there are other kinds of systems used but not in the North Sea."

"People think you can't dive into later years. I know guys diving that are 65 and 67 as well as a 73 year old inshore diver named Sid."

"As long as you can pass your medical, you're good to go."

[Seasoned scuba diver dumbfounded after encountering several species for the first time: 'Something's not right here'](#)

Jeremiah Budin December 7, 2023

Tropical fish have started to appear off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada, startling one experienced scuba diver who has been swimming in those waters for the past two decades.

Scuba diver Lloyd Bond [spoke to Phys.org](#) about his discoveries, which have included seahorses, cornet fish, triggerfish, and butterfly fish — none of which are native to the cool northern climate of Nova Scotia.

Bond said he spotted his first tropical fish around eight years ago and that the sightings have increased dramatically over the last five years.

"I caught a triggerfish in Mexico one year and then I saw one here the next year and I was thinking, 'Something's not right here — I shouldn't be seeing this here,'" he [said](#).

Instances of animals turning up in climates that they are not native to have been on the rise, not just in Nova Scotia but worldwide, as human-caused pollution has led to changing weather and [warmer temperatures](#). This has resulted in many animals changing their migratory patterns and others seeking out comfortable temperatures in places that would have traditionally been too cold for them.



While this does not always necessarily spell doom for the animals doing the migration, in a broader sense, introducing new animals to an ecosystem can have ripple effects that cause trouble for the existing life there.

“It is a phenomenon that has been observed in other temperate regions where you get regular incursions and, in some cases, permanent settlement of these species,” Dr. Boris Worm, a marine biologist, told Phys.org. “It is one of the many, many indicators of the ongoing effects of climate change in our waters — it is a symptom, not the disease.”

Dr. Worm cited lionfish, which are invasive and disruptive, as marine animals to keep an eye on in this case, as they have been known to expand their habitat because of warming ocean waters.

Other similar instances include a tropical wetland bird being spotted in Pennsylvania and another bird that is more commonly seen in South America showing up in Wisconsin.

Buyer beware: Illegal seafood trade sparks public warning from Fisheries officials

28/01/2024 [Michael Morrah](#)

Fisheries Officers warn if you buy seafood from un-reputable sources you could end up facing charges.

Fisheries Officers have issued a warning about illegal poaching of seafood saying if you buy seafood from un-reputable sources you could end up facing charges.

They say there's always a surge in illegal sales of high-value species - like crayfish and paua - over summer.

[Man sentenced to 2 years in prison after illegally catching 4664 crayfish](#)

Most recreational fishers play by the rule book. But all too often, fisheries investigators discover seafood being sold online illegally.

"Facebook Marketplace and other social media. It ramps up quite significantly this time of year," Fisheries NZ North Harbour District team leader Glen Blackwell said.

Coupled with good fishing conditions this summer, there's another factor that could be contributing to illegal behaviour.

"I just think times are tough for a lot of people and they're trying to make a dollar, you know," senior fisheries officer Matt Parry said.

- ***Do you have more information? Get in touch with Michael Morrah in confidence by emailing him at michael.morrah@wbd.com***

Blackwell said high-value underwater species can end up being used as currency in the underworld.

"It's pretty well known that within the underworld particularly, it's currency in the drug market. There's a bit of trading that goes on in the high-value species."

In May last year, investigators busted a huge poaching ring.

These are evidential photos from the case where almost 5000 crayfish were stolen from around Mahia Peninsula and sold cheap on Facebook to people from Auckland to Napier.

The commercial value of the stolen crays was almost \$300,000.

In that case, the defendants would make up fake events, like hui or tangi which never existed, and then used those details to gain unapproved customary permits.

After the bust, one buyer told the seller on Facebook: "I thought me purchasing the crayfish from you was above board as you told me you had bought a quota to sell crayfish. Had I known the crayfish was illegal I wouldn't have bought any."

"It's not only the people selling the product that are breaking the law, it's also those people buying it," warned Fisheries NZ compliance director Steve Ham.

"People will try and profit from recreationally caught seafood and now is the time of year when people are trying to sell it."

One whole crayfish will retail for around \$65 to \$90, depending on the size. So a cray for \$30 should ring alarm bells.

"The old adage, if it's too good to be true, it generally is," Ham said.

And stick to reputable sellers only, if you want to avoid becoming entangled in the next illegal fishing investigation.

Good news for clumsy divers: Physics holds the key to less-painful belly-flops

Insights could help improve future designs of naval ships, seaplanes, or projectiles.

[Jennifer Ouellette](#) - 11/7/2023

Brown researchers set up a belly flop-like water experiment using a blunt cylinder, adding an important vibrating twist to it that ultimately led them to counterintuitive findings. Credit: John Antolik and Daniel Harris.

Brown researchers set up a belly flop-like water experiment using a blunt cylinder, adding an important vibrating twist to it that ultimately led them to counterintuitive findings. Credit: John Antolik and Daniel Harris.

We've all had the misfortune of botching a dive into the pool and ending up in a painful belly-flop—or perhaps we've done it deliberately to show off and instantly regretted that decision. Hitting the water in that body position can feel like hitting concrete and lead to bruising or (if one is falling from a greater height) internal injuries. While the basic physics is well-understood, scientists are always looking for greater insight into the phenomenon in hopes of finding novel ways to ameliorate the impact.

Scientists at Brown University have found that, surprisingly, adding a bit of extra spring to a body hitting the water can actually increase the impact force instead of decrease it under certain conditions, according to a [new paper](#) published in the Journal of Fluid Mechanics. The implications go beyond protecting divers; a better understanding of the hydrodynamics will improve designs of naval ships, seaplanes, or projectiles, as well as underwater autonomous vehicles.

From a physics standpoint, we're talking about an elastic body hitting the surface of water. The stress of moving from the medium of air to the much denser medium of water exerts a huge force as that body displaces it. The cohesive forces between water molecules are stronger at the surface, making it harder to break through. (It's why diving competitions often use aerators to create bubbles in the water, breaking the surface tension to protect the divers.) A large volume of fluid must be accelerated (displaced) in a short timeframe to match the speed of the impinging body. The larger the surface area of the object hitting the water, the more resistance there will be—and with belly-flops there will be a much larger surface area than with a simple swan dive, resulting in that signature slam.

Scientists have been studying this phenomenon for a very long time, including recent work on diving birds like [gannets and kingfishers](#). Despite the stress on their bodies, gannets and kingfishers manage the feat again and again without injury, especially concussions, thanks in part to their tapered cone-shaped beaks, enabling them to enter the water without creating a compression wave beneath the surface. Gannets also fold their wings back as they dive for a streamlined shape.

This latest study investigates the impact of more blunt bodies hitting the water surface, in which the highest impact occurs during the so-called "slamming" phase. "Most of the work that's been done in this space looks at rigid