

# **NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club Newsletter September 2024**

Club Meeting 7:00pm Wed 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**What's on :** Guest Speaker – Norman Holtzhausen – “Divecat” also Philippines photos

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



**Club's Mail Address  
14 Gails Drive  
Okura  
RD2 Albany**



**Club Contacts Inside  
Website As Above**



## COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2024/2025

<b>President/Entertainment</b>	Allan Dixon	<b>021 994 593</b>	allanandjilldixon@xtra.co.nz
<b>Vice-President</b>	Chris Nipper	021 991 732	akidna27@gmail.com
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<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Margaret Howard	<b>0274 839 839</b>	marg.howard@xtra.co.nz
<b>Sec/Treasurer backup</b>	Trish Mahon-Adams	0272 715 410	t.triden@gmail.com
<b>All Trips Organiser</b>	Margaret Howard	0274 839 839	marg.howard@xtra.co.nz
<b>Committee</b>	Dave Craig	021 557 588	dave.wave5@gmail.com
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	Peter Howard	0225 194 046	pete.howard@xtra.co.nz
<b>Web Site</b>	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:– Members walking & exploring our geothermal wonderland by Denis**

### **WHAT'S ON?**

**11<sup>th</sup> September – Wed. – 7:00pm – Club Room** – Guest speaker - Norman Holtzhausen – Dive Cat sinking in Hauraki Gulf - Plus photos from the Phillippines trip by Ray & Penny. Northcote Rd Ext'n, Takapuna.

22<sup>nd</sup> September - Sun - Visit Tiritiri Matangi Island. Trip full.

29<sup>th</sup> September - Sun - 9am - EMR Volunteer training day (water skills) - AUT Millenium Centre - free

13<sup>th</sup> October - Sun - 9am - EMR club rooms kayak & snorkel training **plus 10am** Dolphin UWAC cleanup.

**19<sup>th</sup> October – Sat – 7:00pm - Milford Cruising Club – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** with guest speakers **Dave Moran & Keith Gordon.** Enquiries phone Margaret 0274 839 839 or email [marg.howard@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marg.howard@xtra.co.nz)

**Dive trips, NZ & Overseas** – Check out the local 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. 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**

**DONT FORGET TO REGISTER WITH MARGARET IF YOU ARE COMING TO THE  
 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024  
 IT’S NOW OR NEVER**

**Margaret 0274 839 839 or email [marg.howard@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marg.howard@xtra.co.nz)**

**NZ DOLPHIN UNDERWATER & ADVENTURE CLUB**

You are invited to the  
**70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
 1954 - 2024

**19<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

Guest Speakers – Dave Moran, Keith Gordon & Fiona Tarlton  
*Recognition of our New Patron – Paddy Stafford-Bush*

**BUFFET · BAR · OLD FRIENDS**  
**DOOR PRIZES · RAFFLES**

Drinks from 5.30pm – Dinner 7pm  
 \$45.00 per person

Milford Cruising Club, North Shore - Auckland

*Bring along any trophies, old photos or memorabilia you would like to share.  
 Also bring any article of clothing you would like the Club Logo or 70th Anniversary logo embroidered on, tee-shirt, sweat shirt, polo fleece etc.  
 Please pin name on with return address – approx. cost \$20 per garment.*

Number of tickets .....@ \$45 each. Club Logo ... @ approx . \$20 ea  
 Online banking direct credit into the Dolphin Underwater Club  
 ANZ Bank Account Number 06 0122 0074227 01  
 (Please identify your payment)



Names of those attending:.....  
 .....

Email:..... Phone:.....

Date of Club Membership:..... Position held:.....

Other:..... Sorry unable to attend:.....

Enquiries phone Margaret Howard 0274 839839 or email - [marg.howard@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marg.howard@xtra.co.nz)

**Done it yet?**

**Maybe this next article is where some of us will be heading in the future**

## Retirement village residents scuba dive, travel the globe — with VR



[By 1News Reporters](#) Fri, Aug 23

Virtual reality for seniors

Residents of a Christchurch retirement village are travelling the world using virtual reality headsets. Virtual reality for seniors4:49

Residents of a Christchurch retirement village are travelling the world using virtual reality headsets. (Source: Seven Sharp)

For the residents of a Christchurch retirement village, life regularly leaps from the real to the virtual and back again.

In the time it takes to make a cup of tea and whip up a batch of scones, Russley Village residents Anne and Doug can travel to France for a quick tour of Paris. Then, a stop off in the Caribbean to go scuba diving — all from the comfort of their armchairs.

Anne and Doug use virtual reality technology — powered by distinctive headsets — to transport themselves to locations across the globe. According to Russley Village, the idea is to increase the feeling of "thriving" within a community.

After a month-long trial, the retirement village purchased several headsets from virtual reality tech company Rendeвер and will pay a monthly subscription to access more than 700 experiences.



Rendeвер's New Zealand director, Simon Burrows, takes Russley Village residents on a virtual reality tour. (Source: Seven Sharp)

Rendeвер's New Zealand director, Simon Burrows, who introduced American advancement advancements in virtual reality to rest homes in Aotearoa, explained the idea behind the technology to Seven Sharp.

"My grandmother was in a care home in the UK and became isolated and withdrawn and declined quite quickly. The ability to use technology to counter those sorts of problems is very real for caregivers."

Burrows said the technology is designed for shared experiences and to bring people together and prompt memories.

Resident Judith Hewett said the virtual reality water experience reminded her of her father's aquarium.

"He had a big tank, so I got to know a few names — gourami, kissing gourami, swordfish," she said.

Since she became a quadriplegic, Judith has been living in a care centre and away from the North Canterbury farm she shared with her husband, Gordon.

On the day Seven Sharp visited, Judith enjoyed an evocative trip down memory lane with a virtual tour of her farm back home.

"There'd be daffodils coming up shortly," she said, observing her old driveway. "Jeez, it's so good."



"[The virtual reality is] just brilliant," said Gordon. "It just takes them to another place."

Burrows said the virtual tour options were limitless.

"They can have family members film a grandchild's birthday party, a wedding overseas, a rugby match or a religious ceremony — all sorts of personal things that can be filmed in virtual reality and made available for them in a headset.

"It's as close to being there as you can without actually being there."

## Prehistoric discovery in US lake leaves experts in awe as divers race to find more

By [Stacy Liberatore For Dailymail.com](#)

A prehistoric discovery of at least 11 ancient canoes found at the bottom of a [Wisconsin](#) lake could lead archaeologists to a long-lost village.

The Wisconsin Historical Society uncovered the boats in the state's northerner Lake Mendota, which date between 4,500 years to 800 years old.

Artifacts like fishing nets and tools were also found among the preserved vessels that were each made from a single tree.

[The canoes were also](#) discovered along a shoreline that has since been submerged, suggesting a previously unknown civilization once thrived in the area.

A prehistoric discovery of at least 11 ancient canoes found at the bottom of a Wisconsin lake could lead archaeologists to a long-lost village. Pictured is a 3,000-year-old boat in its original resting place.

'Seeing these canoes with one's own eyes is a powerful experience, and they serve as a physical representation of what we know from extensive oral traditions that Native scholars have passed down over generations,' said Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Ho-Chunk Nation Bill Quackenbush.

'We are excited to learn all we can from this site using the technology and tools available to us, and to continue to share the enduring stories and ingenuity of our ancestors.'

While the Ho-Chunk tribe once lived in the area surrounding Lake Mendota, the Paleo-Indian people were the earliest inhabitants arriving around 12,000 years ago - the Ho-Chunk tribe migrated there no earlier than 800AD.

The boats are known as dugout canoes because each was constructed out of a single tree.

After cutting the tree and sculpting the canoe, natives would burn the seating area and scrape out the charcoal with stone tools to create a softer feel on the inside.

Archaeologists have been excavating the lake since 2021, uncovering a 1,200-year-old boat about 15 feet long, which was found with ancient fishing nets.





The boat was discovered 30 feet below the surface.



The teams pulled each canoe out from the water for a deeper analysis, but are not removing additional boats in fear of ruining them. The Wisconsin Historical Society uncovered the boats in the state's northerner Lake Mendota, which date between 4,500 years to 800 years old. Pictured is a 3,000-year-old canoe



While the Ho-Chunk tribe once lived in the area surrounding Lake Mendota, the Paleo-Indian people were the earliest inhabitants arriving around 12,000 years ago. The boats may have belonged to the ancient civilization

Amy Rosebrough, Staff Archaeologist for the Wisconsin Historical Society, told DailyMail.com in 2021: 'The canoe was used for fishing on the lakes, since we found a group of 'netsinkers' inside.

'These items would have weighted down the lower end of a floating fishing net or anchored fishing lines.'

The canoe first appeared like a log sticking out from the surface, but archaeologists decided to conduct a further analysis with underwater scooters and scuba divers, revealing the historic find.

A year later, the team pulled a 14-foot-long boat from the depths that dated back 3,000 years.



'Radiocarbon dating results indicated the oldest canoe in the Lake Mendota cache is approximately 4,500 years old—making it the oldest dugout canoe now [recorded in the Great Lakes](#)—dating back to around 2500BC and constructed of Elm,' the team shared in the announcement.



The four oldest of the canoes date back to the Late Archaic period, from 1000BC to 700AD, and two were from the Middle Woodland period that spanned from 1000AD to 1400AD.

The canoes were found with rocks meticulously placed on top while below the surface, which experts speculated was done to ensure the boats did not warp during the winter months

Archaeologists have been investigating Lake Mendota (pictured) since 2021



The dating technique also determined that up to four canoes dated to the Late Woodland period - around 1000BC.

And the most recent was found to be around 800 years old, from the Oneota period, constructed of Red Oak and dating back to around 1250 AD.

Ash, White Oak, Cottonwood and White Oak were other tree species used to build the ancient boats.



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The boats are known as dugout canoes because each was constructed out of a single tree. After cutting the tree and sculpting the canoe, natives would burn the seating area and scrape out the charcoal with stone tools to create a softer feel on the inside. Ash, White Oak, Cottonwood and White Oak were other tree species used to build the ancient boats



The recovery team used floatation bags to lift the boats from the lake floor and floated them underneath the water to the beach until they reached the shore

'It was important to limit the amount of time the canoe was exposed to the open air in order to prevent physical deterioration,' said Rosebrough.



### [Ancient tools found in Maryland show the first humans came to America 7,000 YEARS earlier than previously thought, scientist claims](#)

'We have a lot to learn from the Mendota canoe site, and the research happening today allows us to better understand and share the stories of the people who lived here and had a thriving culture here since time immemorial,' said Larry Plucinski, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.

The Wisconsin Historical Society is not planning to recover other canoes from the site due to their fragile condition after weathering long-term exposure to natural elements, and later, manmade conditions such as water pollution and boating wakes.

'It is an honor for our team to work alongside the Native Nations to document, research and share these incredible stories from history,' Rosebrough said in regards to the 2024 announcement.

'What we thought at first was an isolated discovery in Lake Mendota has evolved into a significant archaeological site with much to tell us about the people who lived and thrived in this area over thousands of years and also provides new evidence for major environmental shifts over time.'

*I wonder what may lie on the bottom of some of our lakes particularly in the south island. Ed.*

## **There's a sinister reason why you never see narwhals in aquariums**

[Harriet Brewis](#)

Narwhal caught on film stunning fish with tusk  
content.jwplatform.com

[Narwhals](#) are among the most elusive creatures in the ocean, with their long, spiralling tusks giving them an almost mythological quality.

And whilst many people would pay good money to see these unicorns of the sea in the flesh, they are notably absent from the world's aquariums.

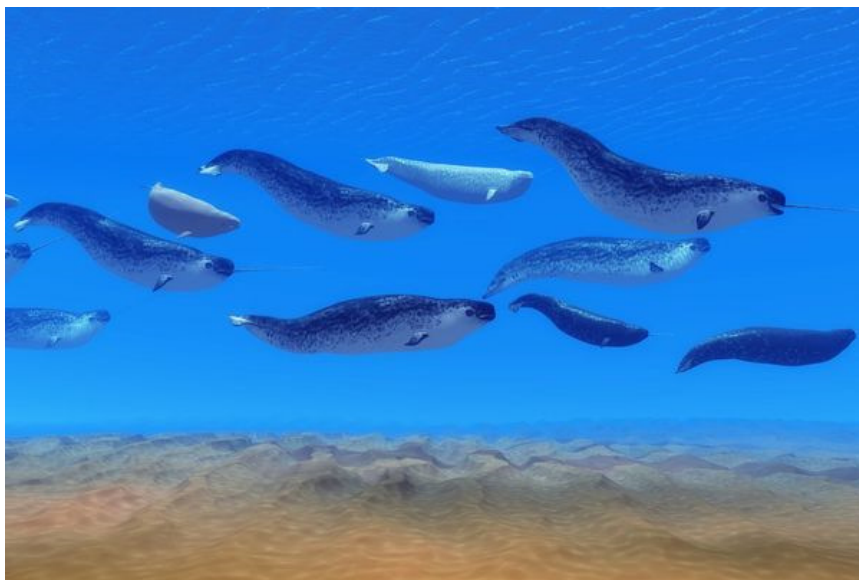


The reason for this is both dark and mysterious, since there have only been two attempts to keep the toothed whales in captivity.

Both of these ended in tragedy and the general acceptance that narwhals simply don't belong in our sealife centres.

The legendary porpoises, which are related to belugas and orcas, are found in Arctic coastal waters and rivers.

They have two teeth and, in males, the more prominent of these grows into the swordlike tusk which can be up to 10 feet long, according to [National Geographic](#).



Narwhals are known for travelling in large groups

Back in 1969, Coney Island's New York Aquarium becoming the first-ever centre to put a narwhal on display.

According to [IFL Science](#), the aquarium became home to a young calf called Umiak, whose name referred to the canoe used to hunt the species in the High Arctic.

It was captured by members of the Inuit community who said that it followed their canoe back to camp after they killed its mother for meat.

Umiak was put in a tank alongside a female "white whale" (most likely a beluga), who acted as its stepmother.

And although staff reportedly fed vast quantities of milk mixed with chopped clams to keep it happy, they weren't able to keep it healthy.



Less than a year after Umiak arrived at the centre, the orphaned narwhal died of pneumonia, as reported by [The New York Times](#) at the time.

Still, the animal's swift and tragic demise didn't stop Canada's Vancouver Aquarium from attempting the same feat in 1970.

The aquarium had been gearing up to host a narwhal since 1968, when its director, Murray Newman, hoped that bringing narwhals to the city could generate interest in the species and help with its conservation, *IFL Science* reports.

After two unsuccessful attempts to capture one of the whales themselves, Newman and his team were forced to buy a young male from a community of Inuit hunters based in Grise Fiord on Canada's Ellesmere Island.



Narwhals are known for their long unicorn-like tusks

The animal was reportedly called Keela Luguk – a phonetic spelling of the word “qilalugaq”, which means “narwhal” in some Inuktitut dialects.

Within a week of Keela Luguk's arrival at Vancouver Aquarium in August 1970, the centre had caught two female narwhals and three calves, which were then added to his tank. However, in less than a month, the three calves had died. And by November, the two females were also gone.

As public outrage mounted, the mayor of Vancouver himself called for Keela Luguk to be returned to the wild.

But Newman would not succumb to their pressure and, eventually, on 26 December that same year, the young whale was reported to have died too.

It's not known exactly why the narwhals fared so dismally in captivity, particularly given that the species's closest relative, the beluga, can survive a number of years, or even decades, in aquarium facilities.

However, the porpoises are known to be exceptionally sensitive animals, with [studies](#) finding that they are so affected by human-made noises that even the sound of a ship sailing near their habitat is enough to radically impact their behaviour.

Fortunately, aquariums seem to have got the memo, and narwhals have largely been left to continue their lives as fabled enigmas of the sea.

**Practice being safe & staying safe for you & your buddies & we will see you all at the club meeting**

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

**NB: Especially in the Hauraki Gulf area, things have changed.**

