

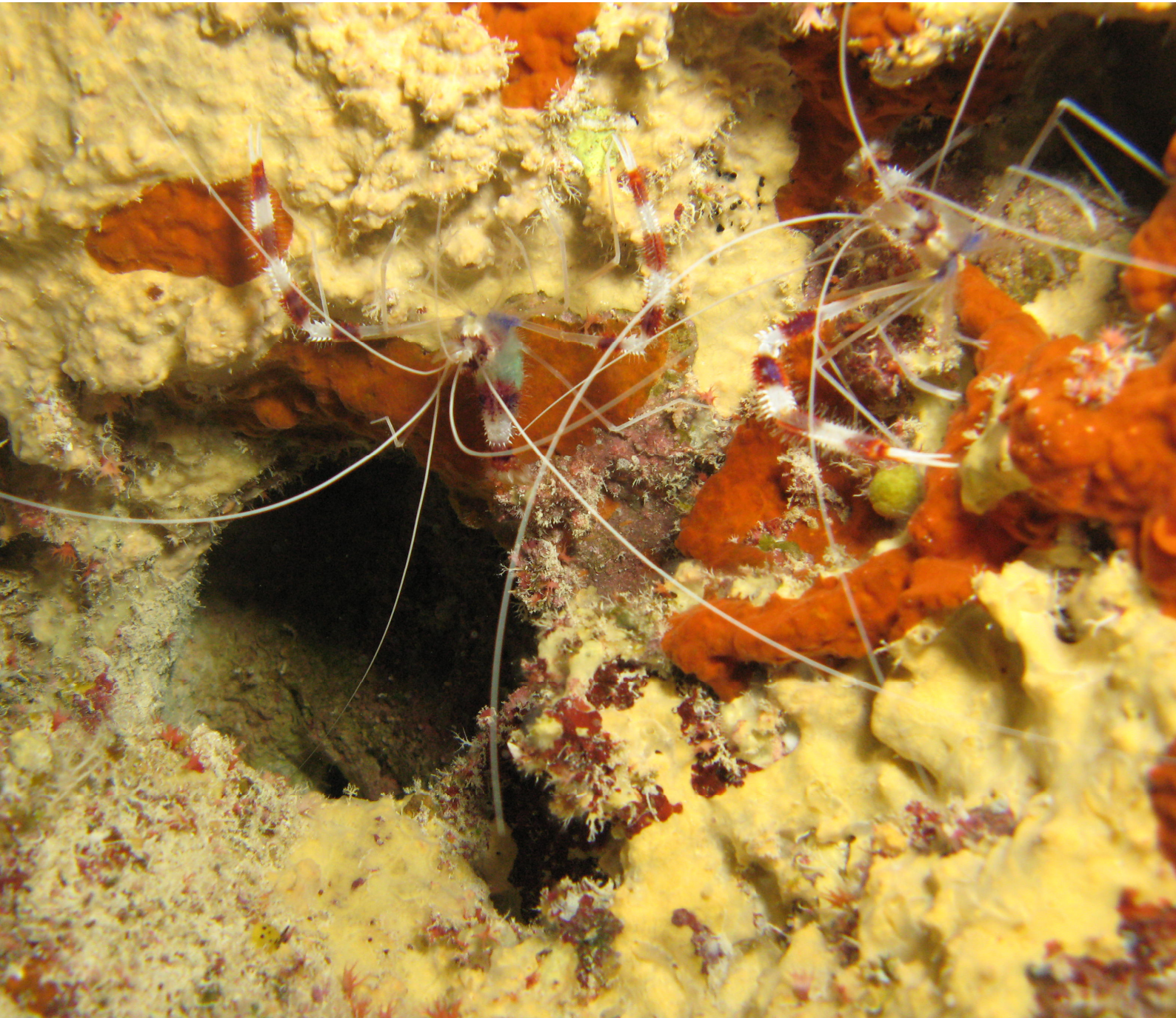
NZ Dolphin Underwater & Adventure Club

Newsletter December 2024

Club Meeting None till February 2025. Instead see below.

What's on : **Xmas dinner at the Milford Cruising Club** Thur 12th Dec 6pm

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. **Patron** Paddy Stafford-Bush
Cover Page Photo:– Cleaner Shrimps in Niue 2009 by Kevin

WHAT'S ON?

12th December – Thur. – 6:00pm – Milford Cruising Club – Xmas Diner Dinner Must let Margaret know for booking. 0274 839 839.

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

Diver recalls terrifying encounter with a four-metre Great White shark - and the five things all swimmers should do if they end up in the same situation

Diver Tim Ryan had shark circle him for five minutes

By [EMMA KIRK FOR NCA NEWSWIRE](#)

Published: 18:59 AEDT, 2 November 2024 | Updated: 18:59 AEDT, 2 November 2024

A diver has captured the terrifying moment he came face-to-face with a huge Great White shark that was circling around him while his mate was inside a cave looking for crayfish.

Tim Ryan posted an eight minute video of the heart racing encounter to [YouTube](#) after he went cray fishing with his friend Andy Nelson in Safety Bay, off Coventry Reef, about 55km south of Perth.

Just before the Great White popped over, Mr Nelson swam into a cave to look for crayfish and remained in there for five minutes, oblivious a 4m shark was swimming around his friend who was low on oxygen.

Mr Ryan waited for his mate outside the cave when the 'bloody big shark' appeared.

'Don, don, don, don literally and hilariously just popped straight into my head when I saw the shark pop out,' Mr Ryan said.

'"Oh my god it is Jaws" I thought and then a second later I was bloody scared, then a second after that I thought I have to deal with this and this is how I do it.

'I did my very best to hold it down.'

Mr Ryan said there were five things you should do during a shark encounter and he did all five.



A huge Great White

'So obviously you have to not splash or flap about and become attractive to the animal,' he said.

'You've got to maintain eye contact with it at all times or it will come and sneak up on you, you have to remain vertical in the water, then you have to keep your breathing and heart rate down.

'I think I did all those things.'

Mr Ryan said the Great White was only a couple of metres away and it swam so close to him he could have touched it.

'There were a number of times when it swam overhead, and also when it swam alongside me I could have reached out and touched it,' he said.



Diver Andy Nelson was looking for crayfish inside a cave oblivious to the fact a 4m shark had been circling his mate Tim Ryan for five minutes.

'It circled me for a full five minutes, and oh my god, it came in and made passes at me for the full five minutes.

'It was only at the very end when Andy popped out of the cave, having a second person in the water scared it off.'

Mr Ryan said the swim back to the boat was 'pretty awful' because they could no longer see the shark and his oxygen was extremely low.

Mr Nelson swam back to find the boat and found the way quickest way back, but Mr Ryan kept having to turn around to see if he could see the shark after they lost sight of it in the water.

'Well that's the point when the adrenaline levels went up a little bit because that's their whole gig right, they go into the darkness and they sneak around and they come smashing up on you from behind,' Mr Ryan said.

'It's the one you don't see that you got to really worry about, especially when you definitely know there is one around.

'You just turn around and it's coming at you at 20 knots, you know.'

Mr Ryan said when they finally made it back to the boat the pair just laughed.

'It was all pretty exciting, you know, it took probably half an hour for us to get a heart rate and breathing rate back down,' he said.

'Andy at that stage had no idea that I had a full five minutes with the shark circling me, he was pretty amazed at the whole thing, we then just shook our heads for a while.'



© NCA NewsWire

The 4m great white shark swam close to the divers with Tim Ryan telling 9 News it was straight above him with its mouth open a little bit and close enough to touch. Picture: Supplied.

And for something completely different

18 vying for Miss Scuba International Competition

By The Borneo Post on November 18, 2024, Monday at 7:22 PM [Sabah](#).



The Contestants of the 2024 International Miss Scuba competition.

KOTA KINABALU (Nov 18): Eighteen beauties from 15 countries and region gathered at the Mabul Water Bungalows resort to begin the 2024 International Miss Scuba competition. They are from Australia, China, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Kenya, Macau, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, United Kingdom and USA.

The Malaysian contestant, Leona Tang, is a physiotherapist and a part-time mermaid instructor, as well as a scuba diver and free diver from Johor. She shared that diving is a way to relieve stress, to relax, while also boosting self-confidence. Mabul Island is one of the top destinations for many divers, and she is very much looking forward to this competition.

On the day of their arrival on November 16, the contestants learned about the purpose of the competition, which is to create awareness for marine conservation.

The International Miss Scuba International competition has been running for 11 years, with the tagline “Saving Oceans Through Beauty.”

The founder and president of the Miss Scuba International, Datuk Robert Lo, said that the contestants will be able to learn about different cultures, build new friendships, and gain more knowledge about environmental protection.

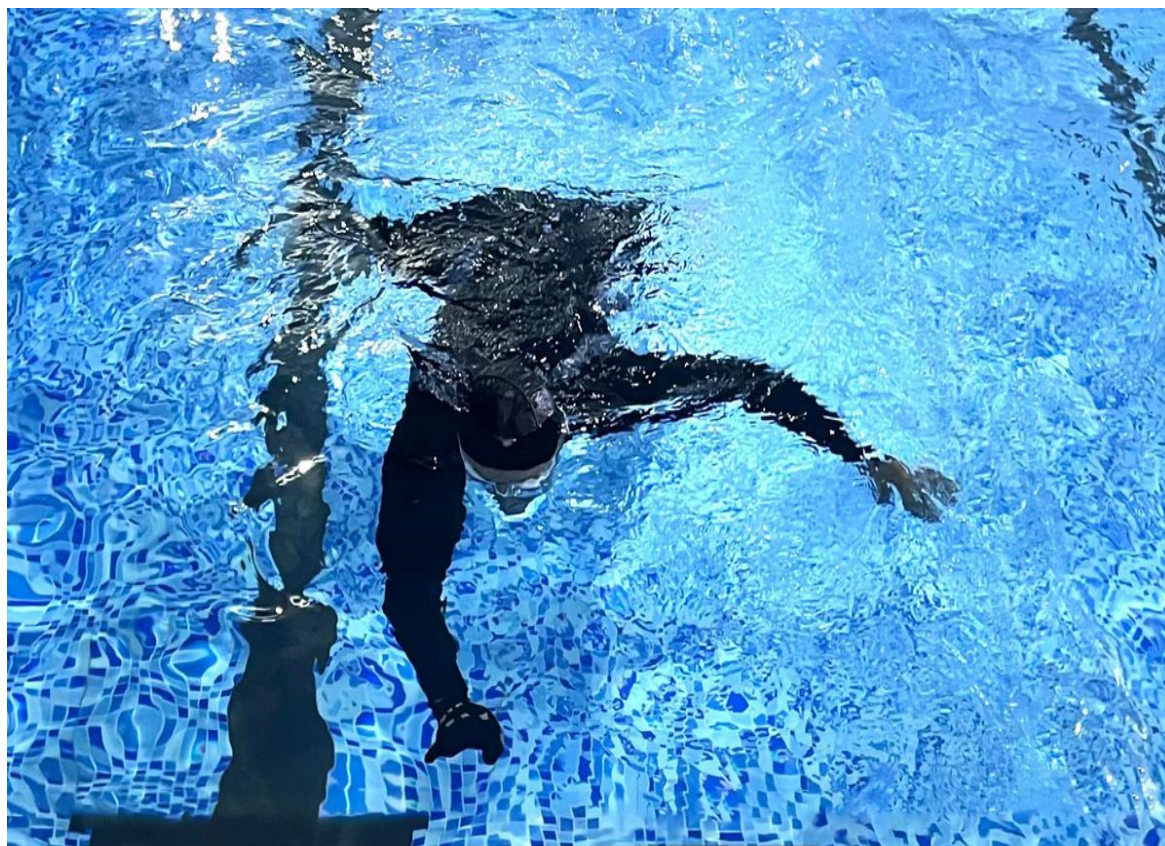
After the orientation, the ladies wore their beautiful gowns for the first Miss Scuba International welcome dinner.

In the next ten days, they will conduct various photoshoots and diving activities. They will also be participating in the PADI Dive Against Debris and the Basic Mermaid courses, as well as a beach clean-up.

New e-glove could allow scuba divers shout ‘shark’ attack underwater

The big challenge here was to make the electronic sensors waterproof for use in a pool or the ocean while retaining the e-glove’s flexibility.

Published: Apr 10, 2024 07:01 AM EST [Abhishek Bhardwaj](#)



The waterproof e-glove makes it easier for scuba divers to communicate underwater.

[ACS Nano](#)

Researchers have developed a new technology that can wirelessly transmit hand gestures made underwater to a computer that can translate them into messages. The development will help divers talk with their partners or those on the surface to relay messages like – ‘Ok’, ‘Exit’, or ‘Shark’.

The whole process relies on a waterproof e-glove, which is aimed at making underwater communication easier for scuba divers.

Usually, when divers have to say 'I'm okay' or to make their dive partners aware of some danger, they rely on hand signals to communicate visually. However, sometimes, these movements are hard to see because of distance, darkness, or dirty water.

Therefore, the researchers reporting in ACS Nano have constructed a waterproof 'e-glove' that can help divers communicate better.

The waterproof e-glove development

Gloves fitted with electronic sensors that can translate hand motions into information are already [in the making](#). Some e-gloves allow the wearer to interact with virtual reality elements. Some other designs also help people affected by stroke regain fine motor skills.

The big challenge here was to make the electronic sensors waterproof for use in a pool or the ocean while retaining the glove's flexibility – to allow the wearer to move it according to what they want to convey.

The researchers began by fabricating waterproof sensors that rely on flexible microscopic pillars inspired by the tube-like feet of a starfish.

Using laser writing tools, the researchers [created an array](#) of these micropillars on a thin film of polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS), a waterproof plastic commonly used in contact lenses. After coating the PDMS array with a conductive layer of silver, the researchers sandwiched two of the films together with the pillars facing inward to create a waterproof sensor.

For attaching the waterproof sensors to the glove, roughly the size of a USB-C port, the researchers packed 10 of these within self-adhesive bandages and sewed them over the prototype's knuckles and first finger joints.

The sensor is responsive when flexed and can detect a range of pressures comparable to the light touch of a dollar bill up to the impact of water streaming from a garden hose, as per the team.

Gesture vocabulary

To create a hand-gesture vocabulary that the computer can understand, a volunteer was asked to make 16 gestures, including the basics like 'Ok' and 'Exit'.

The team recorded the specific electronic signals created by the e-glove sensors for each gesture made by the volunteer.

A machine learning technique was then applied for translating sign language into words to create a computer program that could translate the e-glove's gestures into messages. Upon testing, the program translated hand gestures made on land and underwater with an accuracy of 99.8 percent.

As per the team, a version of this e-glove could help scuba divers communicate with hand signals even when they cannot clearly see their dive partners, and also with sending messages to their partners who are on the surface. The research was first published on [ACS Publications](#).

Merry Xmas & A Happy New Year we'll see you then. D & T.

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.