

International Dolphin Watch (IDW)

Has an unblemished reputation as a non-profit organisation dedicated to helping dolphins since it was founded by Dr Horace Dobbs in 1978.



Friends of IDW NEWSLETTER

1st September 2007

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Message from Dr Horace Dobbs Honorary Director International Dolphin Watch

Dear Dolphin Friend

Welcome to this latest edition of the IDW Newsletter, which is reaching you via the keyboard of a truly remarkable lady, Jackie Connell, who produces it virtually single-handed.



During the past month, Jackie had to make an agonising decision. Should she go into hospital for urgent abdominal surgery? Or should she delay the operation to go on a pre-planned holiday with her husband Terry (our webmaster), to swim with dolphins in the Azores with a Dolphin Connection group organised by Amanda Stafford?

Against the advice and loving concern of some of her family, Jackie chose the later option and with the agreement of her surgeon managed to get her operation postponed until 29th August. Which means that when you open this Newsletter Jackie will be in Northampton General Hospital recovering from a major surgical intervention.

Despite a strong protest from her husband, Jackie asked that when she comes out of the operating theatre and back into the ward he should bring in her laptop along with the flowers and grapes. This is in order that she can receive your emails and start compiling the next Newsletter. Her excuse is that it will take her mind off her operation.

I am sure you will agree that this is the request of a truly courageous woman who needs all the love and support we can give her.

I am also sure that I can speak for all those who have enjoyed her Newsletters over the past twelve months when I send her healing and wishes for a speedy recovery from the Dolphin Fiesta, which I shall be attending in Germany.

Dr Horace Dobbs, Honorary Director International Dolphin Watch
www.dolphinfriend.com

CONSERVATION

Science Daily

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

August 23, 2007

Where Have All The Dolphins Gone This Summer?

Researchers from the wildlife conservation charity Marinelife are extremely concerned about what it is NOT seeing this summer in the Bay of Biscay.



Common dolphin in the Bay of Biscay. (Credit: Copyright Clive Martin / BDRP)

Marinelife's unique long-term monitoring project, the Biscay Dolphin Research Programme (BDRP) has been conducting scientific monthly whale, dolphin and seabird surveys through the English Channel and Bay of Biscay for the last 13 years, using the P&O Cruise Ferry, The Pride of Bilbao, as a research platform. In addition, a BDRP full-time Wildlife Officer collects daily data on dolphin abundance. The BDRP surveys have detected more than 20 species of whale and dolphin in the Bay of Biscay and counted over a hundred thousand animals.

Through the recent work of BDRP and other research groups, the Bay of Biscay has become known as a worldwide hotspot for whales, dolphins and seabirds with many passengers each year experiencing wonderful encounters with the marine wildlife, especially groups of dolphins that may number several thousand. However, this summer there has been a very obvious and worrying dearth of sightings, which is significant given that the Bay of Biscay is of European importance for dolphins and other cetaceans.

Early indications have shown that during June and July, the total number counted of the 3 main dolphin species, Common Dolphin, Striped Dolphin and Bottlenose Dolphin, are down by around 80% on the same time last year. Seabirds, such as auks, shearwaters, and gannets have also been in short supply and the situation has been ongoing since the early spring, with no signs of an improvement thus far during August.

Marinelife are worried that this very apparent decline in sightings of both dolphins and seabirds along the ferry route, could be more wide-ranging and could indicate a big reduction in fish stocks due to over fishing or a change in distribution of fish stocks due to temperature changes (in turn linked to climate change). This year has already been marked by a failure of the anchovy fishery, with bans being put in place for the Spanish and French fleets, but what else could be happening?

Marinelife's Research Director, Dr Tom Brereton said: "Whatever the cause of the disappearance of dolphins this summer, it shows both how vulnerable they are and how alarmingly quickly local declines can occur when environmental conditions change. The changes highlight how we need to act quickly, to address major issues such as climate change and over-fishing."

Marinelife are also well aware of the other pressures facing dolphins, especially those in Biscay and the Western Approaches to the English Channel and that too is related to commercial fishing – namely bycatch of dolphins in fishing nets. This activity is known to claim thousands of dolphins each year, many washing up dead on the beaches of the south west coastline and this situation has still not been adequately addressed by the fishing industry.

Marinelife continues to work in partnership with a number of other research groups, spearheading an international initiative, the Atlantic Research Coalition (ARC) that aims to describe changes in the status of whales and dolphins at European scale.

Note: This story has been adapted from a news release issued by MarineLife.

Wild Dolphin Foundation



Dear Friends

With a same-day earthquake, hurricane and 5,000 acre fire - immediately followed by an unrelated tsunami warning - it might be safe to say that mother nature is a little P.O.-ed. The WDF mission is to preserve the natural habitat of wild dolphins - which is essentially connected to us all. We wanted to share some things we are doing to lessen our ecological footprint and encourage you to share ways you are weakening yours.

WDF believes that every little action we take adds up to a world of difference. You set an example to friends, family and even complete strangers. I used my WDF tote to take home groceries last week and the bagger couldn't comprehend why I would bring my own bag. I used the opportunity to educate both him and the cashier how even just bringing back your plastic bags to the store saves resources, curbs pollution and is a simple way to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

For further information please visit the WDF Web site at <http://wilddolphin.org>.

Follow up: Humpback Whales Have Acne?



In January we brought up the issue of what appeared to be non-lethal blisters and pock marks on last season's humpback whales. After talking with other researchers and organizations it seems the condition is prevalent in both the Atlantic and Pacific humpbacks and is generally being written off as "Juvenile Acne."

During a recent visit with my skilled dermatologist, me with laptop and pictures

in tow, she steadfastly determined that the "blisters" were the result of contact chemical burns - resulting from the animals swimming through something toxic - like an oil spill.

Makes you wonder, especially when nearly ALL whales sighted were affected.

Sincerely,
Tori Cullins
Founder
Wild Dolphin Foundation

Email: <mailto:info@wilddolphin.org>

NEWS CUTTINGS

Telegraph

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

August 22, 2007

Dolphins outsmart salmon in Scotland

By Paul Eccleston

Fishermen stump up small fortunes for the chance to fish Scottish waters for the king of fish - the wild Atlantic salmon. But for local residents the fishing is free.

A pod of bottlenose dolphins were pictured ambushing the salmon last week as they neared the end of their long journey from their feeding grounds off Greenland to spawn.

The 15-strong pod waited patiently in the waters of the Moray Firth off Chanonry Point near Inverness for the salmon to appear before launching their attack.

The salmon (*Salmo salar*) returning to the North Sea from the Atlantic hug the shore for safety and then as the tide turns use its force to carry them towards the rivers.



A dolphin catches one of the unlucky salmon

The dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), well known for their intelligence, patrol the migration routes knowing the salmon is genetically programmed to return to the river where it was born to spawn.

Photographer Richard Austin said: " They weren't doing much at first just slowly breaking the surface to take in some air before diving again. The salmon were occasionally leaping out of the water and then suddenly there was an almighty surge of speed from one of the dolphins as he caught a salmon just 20 feet from the shoreline."

Richard's dramatic pictures show the speed and strength of the dolphins, which can grow to 14-feet long, as they homed in on their prey.

The salmon, shimmering aquamarine-blue as they streaked through the water, were nevertheless no match for the dolphins.

The torpedo-shaped dolphins powered through the waters during the hunt with jaws gaping. The panicking salmon threw themselves out of the water in a desperate attempt to avoid the voracious predators.

Powerful salmon of 10-15lbs that would have cost £30 per steak in a top London restaurant were swallowed live and whole in a single gulp.

And when finally sated the dolphins, sporting their trademark smiles, or was it a self-satisfied smirk, cavorted for the camera.

"It was almost as if they'd had a bellyfull of the best wild Scots salmon and it was time to give their waiting public a bit of a show," said Richard.

"And what a show it was. Over two days in completely different weather conditions and in changing light between beautiful sunshine and dull overcast showery rain I managed to capture them hunting and playing. It was absolutely magical"

Scottish fishermen blame seals for taking too many salmon but our pictures point the finger at another suspect.

OPERATION SUNSHINE
Family Therapy Programmes

www.operationsunshine.org

MISSION STATEMENT

*To bring joy and healing into human lives
– especially disadvantaged families*

Under the umbrella of International Dolphin Watch, Operation Sunshine is a not-for-profit organisation set up to provide therapy and social support for families of children with special needs. Dr Horace Dobbs is our Patron and Medical Advisor.

**WE ARE CURRENTLY FUNDRAISING
TO HELP MANY MORE SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES.**

**We would love to hear from you if you would like to support us by
arranging your own fundraising events**

Email: <mailto:Jackie.Connell@ntlworld.com>

www.operationsunshine.org

**OUR THANKS GO TO SHEILA STEVENSON FOR HER FUNDRAISING
ACTIVITIES. HERE ARE A COUPLE OF HER FORTHCOMING
WORKSHOPS.**

**Wand Making
Workshop**

Saturday, 29th September

10.30 – 4.00
Hollins Park
Sway Road
Lymington, SO41 8LJ
England

Contact – Sheila Stevenson
01425 270140

<mailto:four.stevensons@virgin.net>

£30 Donation to Operation Sunshine
Family Therapy Programmes for
Special Needs

www.operationsunshine.org

All abilities and disabilities welcome

**Space Clearing and Sacred Space
Workshop**

Saturday, 13th October 2007-08-23

10.30 – 4.00
Hollins Park
Sway Road
Lymington, SO41 8LJ
England

Contact – Sheila Stevenson
01425 270140

<mailto:four.stevensons@virgin.net>

£30 Donation to Operation Sunshine
Family Therapy Programmes for
Special Needs

www.operationsunshine.org

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH
CDs
Buy one get one free

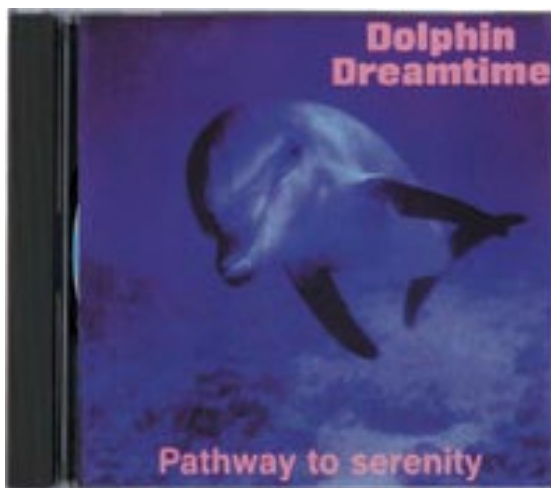
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Dilo
The tale of a young dolphin
By
Horace Dobbs
Narrated by Suzette



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The **Dilo** CD is ideal for entertaining the kids on car journeys, in school, or as a “Good Night” story

DOLPHIN DREAMTIME has been shown scientifically to relieve stress and overcome insomnia



Offer ends on 30th September 2007

TO ORDER YOUR CD'S ONLINE GO TO
http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin_shop.html

DOBBS DIARY

THE MAGIC OF DOLPHINS

Author/broadcaster **HORACE DOBBS** invites you to take an amusing and thought-provoking journey into the world of the mammal that has been described as “Man’s Cousin in the Sea”



HORACE DOBBS was awarded a Silver Bowl (the equivalent to an Oscar) for his talk on dolphins by the International Platform Association in Washington. Other recipients include Winston Churchill and John F. Kennedy. When you hear Horace speak you will understand why he won this prestigious award.

In his presentation Horace will take his audience on an enthralling journey into the joy filled world of the dolphins. Along the way he reveals how he left orthodox medical

research to find out why dolphins have such a special place in our hearts. And of the extraordinary events that led him to discover that dolphins can help those in clinical depression and children with special needs.

Horace always brings some of his books to his presentations and is pleased to sign them with special dedications.

Dr Horace Dobbs has published scientific papers in fields as diverse as nuclear chemistry, medicine and pharmacology. His remarkable and adventurous life is documented in numerous best selling books and TV films. He founded The Oxford Underwater Research Group and the charity International Dolphin Watch www.dolphinfriend.com.

Horace will be at the following venues:

22nd- 23rd September 2007 from 10am to 6pm

Health and Healing Festival

Pavilions of Harrogate in The Great Yorkshire Showground

For information contact: Ruth, Neil, Fern and Kath www.mbsfestivals.co.uk Tel: 01405 704180/769875

Tuesday 23rd October 2007 at 12.30pm

Kingston-upon-Hull Methodist Women’s Luncheon Club

invites you to Kingston Theatre Hotel

For information contact: Eileen Barker Tel: 01482 641649

19th November 2007 at 7.30pm

Guernsey Rotary Club

St. Pierre Park Hotel

invites you to a **supper and talk** to support International Dolphin Watch

For information contact: Carla McNaulty Bauer Tel 01481 127422

FRIENDS NEWS

A COUPLE OF IMPORTANT UPDATES FROM JOAN OCEAN

<http://www.joanocean.com>

1. I have terrific news to share about ONE most important concern. Now -- victory: with the U.S. Navy about to train with dangerous, mid-frequency sonar during nearly a dozen upcoming exercises off the southern California coast, a federal judge has stepped in -- at NRDC's request -- and blocked the use of the sonar!

We are demanding that the Navy put common-sense measures in place to protect whales and other marine mammals from a lethal technology that has caused whale strandings and deaths around the world.

The court's injunction is "preliminary," which means that this fight is far from over. Nevertheless, it is a stunning setback for the Navy, and it supports our contention that whales should not have to die for military practice.

2. THE UPCOMING SEPTEMBER SEMINARS HERE IN HAWAII have a few spaces left, so if you've been putting it off, now is the time to join us, swimming and exploring our lives with the dolphins, www.joanocean.com

JUST ANNOUNCED - A NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION & SEMINAR DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 4TH

Joan, Jean-Luc, Trish and Doug are so pleased to invite you to this special, one-time New Year Celebration Seminar here in Kona, Hawaii!

2007 has been a year of great expansion with many new and powerful high frequency energies assisting humanity in its evolutionary projection into the new matrix. In the last few years, Light Workers have experienced a completion of karma and have been accepting their inevitable transition into their true spiritual power. We have been learning how to let go of our resistance to our radiance and accept our places in the dynamic spiral vortex that is bringing all of humanity into the next phase of this earthly evolution.

Let's celebrate together and support each other on this fantastic voyage as we spiral through the eye of the needle into our new birth and re-emergence of the Divine Feminine!

Joan, Jean-Luc, Trish and Doug will share with you the knowledge and experience of a collective of 33 years working with the dolphin energy and dolphins in the wild.

We will celebrate our oneness and be immersed in joy with hundreds of dolphins as our collective vibration elevates with the heavenly resonance of pure Divine Radiance!

This seminar includes four boat excursions with dolphins (including lunch); all seminar meetings at Joan and Jean-Luc's Sky Island Ranch; and special surprise New Years Eve Celebration (lodging, transportation and meals are not included ... there will be rooms available for rent in both homes and we will give you suggestions for accommodations).

Cost: \$1810; non-refundable deposit \$400; balance due October 29, 2007
***space limited to 30**

For our dolphin excursions, we will be on Jack's Diving Locker's new boat "Kea Niue". At 46 feet long, it's incredibly spacious and guarantees very personalized service. A hot shower, head (marine toilet), a large swim platform, great ladder, lots of deck space and plenty of shade make it comfortable and fun!

To Register:

Joan Ocean's EMAIL <mailto:joan@joanocean.com>
<http://www.joanocean.com>
800-323-8000

World Animal Day
www.worldanimalday.org.uk

Dear Friend

Each year, since 2003, World Animal Day has grown from strength to strength and the message has been spreading further and further a field, with more and more people worldwide getting involved to celebrate mankind's relationship with animals. Please help us to encourage Animal Welfare Organisations and animal lovers throughout the world to be united on this special day to celebrate the animal kingdom and make World Animal Day 2007 the BIGGEST and BEST yet.

Could you help us promote World Animal Day by including a link on your website – ideally on your home page! – between now and October 4th. By adding a simple link to the website, you will be encouraging many more organisations and individuals to visit the site, be inspired and 'get involved'. If you visit www.worldanimalday.org.uk and go to the resources section and then scroll down to the bottom of the page, you will find instructions on how to create a link to the website. It's pretty straightforward and should only take up a few minutes of your time, but the benefits of getting the message out to a wider audience will be huge. Many organisations have already started 'spreading the word' by providing a link from their website, so to all of you, *our heartfelt thanks*.

Don't forget to make use of the event listing facility which provides *free publicity* to any group or individual who is doing something special connected with animals on or around 4th October. There are some exciting events already listed, such as a Rock Concert in New York City, a Cats and Culture Tour of Italy, a World Animal Day Painting in Delhi, and numerous Animal Blessings, to name but a few. If you haven't listed your event yet you're missing out on some free publicity, so what are you waiting for? – *enter your event today!!*

Finally, I would like to highlight the fact that World Animal Day is not linked to any one individual, organisation or campaign, but belongs to everyone. The official World Animal Day website was created and is sponsored by Naturewatch but the organisation does not benefit from this in any way, shape or form.

Thank you on behalf of the animals and myself.

Debbie Dawson

Administrative Assistant

World Animal Day

<mailto:Debbie@worldanimalday.org.uk> +44 (0)1242 252871



Our work with the dolphins is truly humbling and as crew spend more time learning from the dolphins, so does a more profound and respectful relationship blossom. We are honoured that the dolphins choose to spend special moments with us, showing us interesting behaviours – like penis rubbing in the sand or eating small sharks and certainly entertaining us with puffer fish harassment and direct approaches that result in circle swims.

Dolphincare-africa is now up and running and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Merisa from Robcor for their corporate donation as well as Carol Irwin for sorting out the formalities of the paperwork. DCA's web page should go live in about two weeks, at the moment the page is being directed to Dolphins Page with a button for DCA where you will find organizations info and membership options. This includes DCA's tees that have been specially designed by Angie with resident dolphin fins and I Care slogans!

Thanks too to Sharon and Lucia who donated both a Micro track and new hydra-phone for the Project. A sample session this morning recorded crystal clarity while snorkelling over some reef, the snap, crackle and popping that is audible when shallow reef snorkelling, together with the occasional chirp from dolphins set crew oozing with excitement. Harry has owned this project and will be editing the sound for use in Dolphin Diaries. It is hoped that with the camera rolling and the hydra phone recording that we will be able to gain more insight into the dolphin's behaviour. This particular piece of equipment will be put to good use on our essence tours where we will have more time to spend monitoring the dolphins

(Next essence is the 9-13 September – limited to 6 only).

For further information see <http://www.dolphin-encountours.co.za/>

Contact

Email <mailto:info@dolphin-encountours.co.za>

Halo Gaia, Mozambique

<http://www.halogaia.com/>

Dear Dolphin friends

With the changing of the seasons and spring on the rise we are excited to share our upcoming dolphin retreats with you... For a moment, step off the treadmill to come and enjoy the balmy shores of southern Mozambique and our dolphin friends with us. There is a magic beyond words that take place during these retreats... time cease to exist and we begin to step into a space of NOW, into NO time... into infinity; It is here where true joy and one-ness prevails and where the magic begins!

With an emphasis on **sound healing and music therapy**, our holistic retreats focus deeply on **DOLPHIN ASSISTED THERAPY**, channelling the powerful healing energy of the dolphins into our facilitated programs. During the past 7 years of observing the healing that takes place on our retreats we believe that it is the sound sonar of the dolphins that has such profound healing powers. The highly specialized sonar of the dolphins literarily scans the body and balances the chakra system. This could be called 'ultra sonic surgery'. We have seen how dolphins hone in on people who are pregnant, or have a terminal illness and even emotional disturbances, i.e. when suffering from bereavement or severe depression. In essence, the clicking sounds and whistles of dolphins tune the body like a musical instrument. Working with the principles of 'entrainment', our sound therapists harness these same healing powers of sound, creating an awe-inspiring holistic dolphin retreat for our participants.

For more information regarding DOLPHIN ASSISTED THERAPY, please visit our website www.halogaia.com and go to DOLPHIN TOURS / dolphin assisted therapy or visit <http://www.idw.org>

COMING SOON

THE AZORES EXPERIENCE Report by Dr. Horace Dobbs

Azores 11th –20th Aug 2007 with Amanda Stafford – Dolphin Connection
<mailto:info@dolphinconnectionexperience.com>



Note from the Editor

As Horace has mentioned in his message above, by the time you read this Newsletter I will be recovering in hospital after my surgery. I have received messages from friends around the world and I can feel their love and support all around me. The Azores trip was wonderful and has prepared me physically, emotionally and spiritually for the challenges ahead. The Dolphin Dreamtime CD has never been far from my side helping me to relax. This is a time for my personal healing and with the help of the Hospital Team and TLC from my loving husband Terry, I feel sure I will emerge like a butterfly ready for much more dolphin joy ahead.

Horace and I look forward to sharing our Azores Experience with you following my surgery.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR STORIES COMING – WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Friends of IDW worldwide are joining together to do what they can to help others, our planet and bringing joy to many.

Registered Friends of International Dolphin Watch receive news and exchange information on a host of topics. Friends of IDW can use the Newsletter to share stories about their personal dolphin experiences, projects and fund raising events. They can also advertise on the website and contribute to one of our most popular website features - A World Wide Guide on where you can meet dolphins and possibly swim with them.

Email Jackie Connell <mailto:Jackie.connell@ntlworld.com>

Together we CAN and DO make a difference.

Registration to Friends of IDW can be made online at:

http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin_shop.html

If you would like to advertise on www.dolphinfriend.com website:

Email Terry Connell <mailto:terry.connell@ntlworld.com>



Jackie Connell
Editor



Terry Connell
Web Master