

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



www.idw.org



December 2017



**CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER FROM HORACE DOBBS,
Honorary Director of International Dolphin Watch and
the creator of the fictional character DILO.**

**WISHES FOR A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A JOYFUL
NEW YEAR TO ALL FRIENDS OF THE DOLPHINS.**

**A BIG “THANK YOU” FROM THE IDW TEAM TO ALL
THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR NON-PROFIT
ORGANISATION – INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN
WATCH**

Our understanding of the closeness of our relationship with free wild dolphins has continued to grow.

There is absolutely no doubt that dolphins enjoy swimming with humans and frolicking around boats under way.

In 2017 it was therefore agreed to encourage even closer bonds between humans and dolphins by the creation of HUMAN/DOLPHIN HARMONY CENTRES where wild dolphins and humans can freely mingle with one another.

Jackie Connell, who spends six months of the year living on the waterfront in Cable Bay, Mangonui, Northland in New Zealand, told me of the day a pod of bottlenose dolphins



swam into the bay in front of her house. Passers by took off their clothes and went into the water to swim with the dolphins that stayed in the bay for over two hours.



The dolphins were obviously happy to swim with any of the humans who ventured into the sea.

It happened again at a local beach in Taipa. When a local school teacher saw what was happening she took her class down to the sea and allowed them to enjoy the dolphins. It was an experience that none of them will ever forget.

It may never happen again. On the other hand, if the dolphins enjoyed the experience as much as the children, they may make a regular habit of swimming into the bay – and even

introducing their offspring to the joys of encounters with humans.

When International Dolphin Watch was founded In 1978, feeding wild birds was acceptable in back gardens. But the feeding and formation of bonds with wild animals was not encouraged on the grounds that that it could lead to dependency and distortion of their natural behaviour.

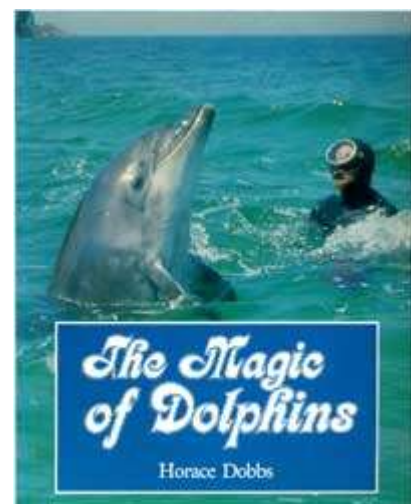
This attitude was enforced by law in many countries and still is. But times are changing.

IDW feels the time has come to actively encourage living in harmony with dolphins in their natural environment. And actively continue to take a stand against imprisoning dolphins in concrete pools.

I therefore propose the creation of new centres in keeping with ideas expressed by Sir David Attenborough in his BBC Planet Earth Series in which he reveals how humans and wildlife can learn to adapt to live together to their mutual benefit. Furthermore the dolphins are the masters in such encounters. And can swim away at any time.

There are places around the world where wild dolphins have taken the initiative to build controlled relationships with humans that can be broken in an instant by the dolphins simply swimming away.

Monkey Mia in Australia is one such place, where for decades dolphins have had friendly relationships with the ever.



changing groups of humans who come down for a swim from the nearby caravan site. I described this in 1984 in my book THE MAGIC OF DOLPHINS.

Jackie Connell and I have had many enthralling experiences with dolphins in their natural environment, in particular with the Wildquest Centre on North Bimini in the Bahamas. Dolphins sometimes coming to greet us as we leave, but more often off shore. Interactions always on the dolphins' terms, in human/dolphin harmony.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: *You can see photos and film of dolphin interactions on www.wildquest.com*

The two way nature of the bond between humans and dolphins is arguably best demonstrated by the solitary dolphins that seek out human company.

One example of this is in Dingle Ireland, with the solitary dolphin called Fungie.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: Here is a photo of Horace Dobbs with Fungie. Many years later Fungie is still enjoying interacting with people:

See:
<http://www.dingledolphin.com/fungie/>



The series of seven children's books about a fictional dolphin named Dilo that I created, and have been translated into many languages, are recommended reading in schools in UK, Japan and the Czech Republic, are capturing ever more young hearts around the world.

And are being used as

CHRISTMAS
signed by the author.

STOCKING fillers, especially when

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: *You can order the Dilo books and CDs from the DOLPHIN shop:*

<http://www.idw.org/dolphinshop1.htm>



The spiritual energy that dolphins can bring into human lives has been captured on a CD entitled *The Dolphin Dreamtime*. A world wide clinical trial on people suffering from conditions ranging from insomnia to clinical depression showed that 70% benefitted. The use of

the dreamtime continues to expand.



Horace Dobbs with Ashley Saunders

One of the enchanting gathering places on Bimini is the Dolphin House. Self-built by a dolphin loving, local teacher, poet, artist, author, historian and story teller Ashley Saunders, whose home is adorned throughout with dolphin-related works of art he has created mainly from items washed up on the beach.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If you know of locations around the world where dolphins in their natural environment are already choosing to interact with people regularly and would like to assist in Horace's life's mission, by the setting up of Dolphin Human Communication Centres, where both species can collaborate freely, directly and indirectly, to establish common bonds, both spiritual and scientific, using sound and vision. Please Email me with your ideas at jackieconnell@btinternet.com.

Thank you for all your support during 2017.

You can download all our archived Newsletters through our International Dolphin Watch web site <http://www.idw.org/dolphinmagazine.htm>

*Wishes for dolphin joy, peace and harmony throughout the World
Jackie Connell*