

## 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.



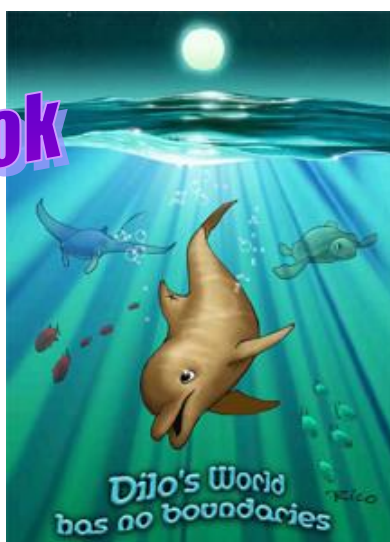
# Friends of IDW NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2010

## EDUCATION

is a major function of International Dolphin Watch

**First Dilo book  
in Czech**

**See page 3**

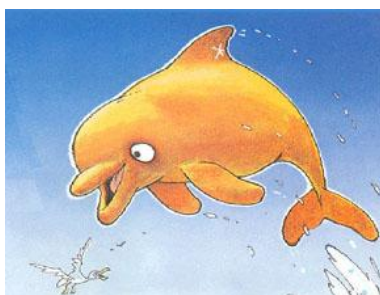


**FREE DVD**

**See page 14**

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**\*See the message from the dolphins on page 18\***



**THE WHALE – Watch the trailer [here!](http://www.thewhalemovie.com/)**

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

(the cetacean film of the decade)

*Educational note: Orcas are the largest members  
of the DELPHINIDAE - the Dolphin Family*

## EDUCATION

## Dilo brings joy to children around the world

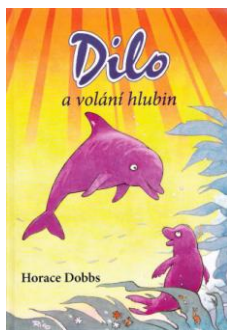


Dilo Children's books by Horace Dobbs are currently available in English, German, Danish and Czech.

Dilo books have previously been produced in Italian, Welsh, Dutch, Turkish, Chinese and Japanese.



## Horace Dobbs and Valpurga Hozáková celebrate Dilo in Czech



The Dilo books can be purchased online from International Dolphin Watch [www.dolphinfriend.com](http://www.dolphinfriend.com) and Delfino <http://www.delfino.cz/>.

## Teacher of Nations



Following their visit to England for the Dolphin Arts Festival in Schools (reported in the July Special Issue of the Newsletter) on the way home Valpurga and Dana took the Dilo books to Holland, where they signed the visitor's book at the Jan Amos Comenius Museum in Naardan. The town of Naarden is of great importance to the Czech people. It is the last resting place of one of the greatest Czech and European philosophers and pedagogues – Jan Amos Comenius (Jan Ámos Komenský), 1592-1670, also known as a

**TEACHER OF NATIONS**

(<http://www.mjakub.cz/en/jan.html>).



# Summer Camp - Dilo with the Children in Haluzice, Czech Republic

31st August – 2nd September 2010

Report by Valpurga and Dana (Project Delfino)

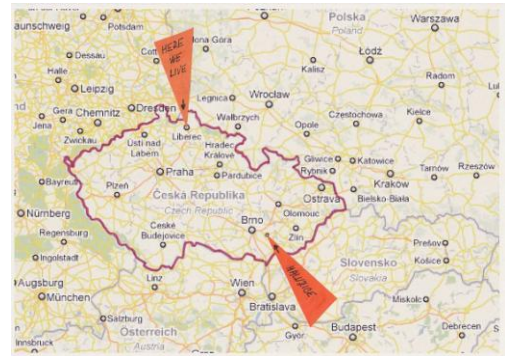
<http://www.delfino.cz>



called 'Bahňák'.

First, we had children and parents to familiarize with Dilo the dolphin. There were also lots of small children. We made the first steps to create a section for teachers in the Czech Republic and teachers who want to work with Project IDEAL came from all over the country.

We developed creative workshops, to engage both children and adults.



We went with Dilo the Dolphin for a children's special summer camp in Haluzice. In preparation for the erection of tents and the arrival of the children and teachers we cleaned the meadow, where three beautiful horses had left a lot of excrement.

Then because it was very hot, we bathed in the therapeutic sulfur pond





Children painted pictures by sense. Small Pavlik painted one mandala especially for us.  
**Dilo has brought much joy to all again.**



# IDEAL

## OBJECTIVES

- To stimulate motivation and learning performances by dolphin orientated educational methods.
- To be an alternative and enrichment of present educational methods.
- To develop new creative ways of common learning and growing together (teacher-children-parents).
- To stimulate the natural motivation for learning and curiosity of children, so that they are able to develop their full potential.
- To use the human's affinity for dolphins, that has proved positive in supporting the development and stimulation of mental processes (that are essential preconditions for successful learning).

## TEACHING MATERIALS – A GAME FOR EVERYONE

In the centre of the created teaching materials are the adventures of a young curious dolphin named Dilo created by Dr. Horace Dobbs. The Dilo story books support the deep emotional connection between humans and dolphins. Dilo accompanies children and adults during the learning process and motivates reading, writing and drawing. While following the dolphin, the children are stimulated to learn themselves and can develop their own natural desire for knowledge.

Teacher/parents/educationalists function as educational mediators and companions while Dilo and his experiences steer and organise the children's learning process.

I - INTEGRATED

D - DOLPHIN

E - EDUCATION

A - AND

L - LEARNING



Education and learning should be connected with joy and easyness for everyone. IDEAL is a concept developed by Dr. Horace Dobbs – scientist, dolphin researcher and visionary – who wanted to share the experiences and amazing discoveries of his research with parents and educationalists. His aim is to show the

possibilities of using the positive effect of dolphins on children, by stimulating their learning motivation.

Of course it is not possible or desirable to integrate wild dolphins into regular lessons. However, you can obtain a similar effect by appropriate teaching materials (such as books, pictures, films, etc.). The method developed by Dr. Dobbs has turned out to be especially effective with children with special educational needs and/or learning difficulties.

IDEAL is a concept to support and enrich holistic and inter-disciplinary teaching methods. It is connecting modern tried and tested teaching methods with new subjects and provides an easy and stress-free access to learning. IDEAL can be adapted and integrated within every educational concept.



If you watch dolphins, you will feel that their life is play and fun most of the time. They show us that life is always connected with joy and fun, no matter how difficult challenges may seem. Dolphins are symbols of enthusiasm, intelligence and playfulness and they learn extremely fast. The sea is their home, their school and their playground. These three areas of life are not separated. Humans, however, usually create a strong separation between the different areas (home/family, school/work, leisure time). For dolphins

work and play is melted together and not different at all.

Thus the dolphin's life style shows us in a very impressive and easy way a holistic and integrative teaching and learning method where everyone meets challenges and new subjects with fun, curiosity and playful ease.

Research showed us that dolphins have a very complex social fabric, extraordinary communicative and psychic abilities. Scientists assume that dolphins basically use their right brain hemisphere to survive. This also explains their playful attitude to all things in life and their harmonious relationship with their environment.

### Studies show:

Dolphins transmit their *joie de vivre* to humans and stimulate mental processes. This is caused – among other things – by the emission of endorphines which can have both short and long term effects. Endorphines lift the mood, relax tensions and thus support receptive and learning abilities.



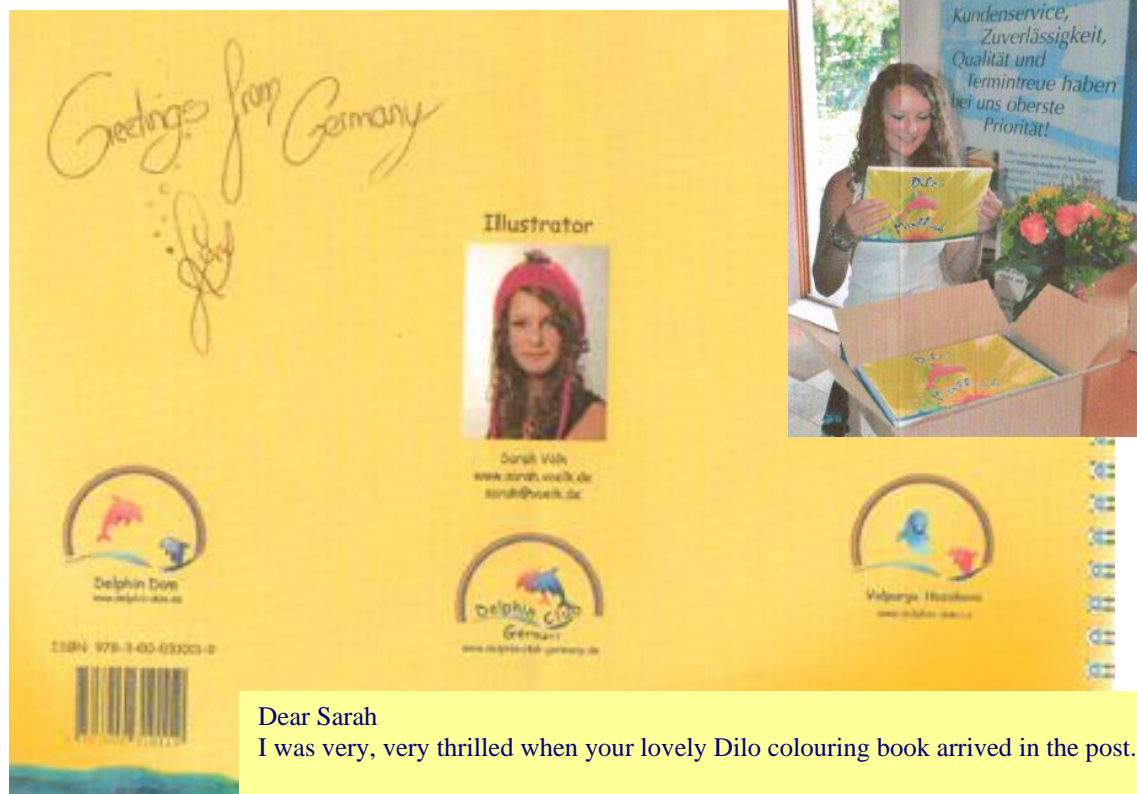
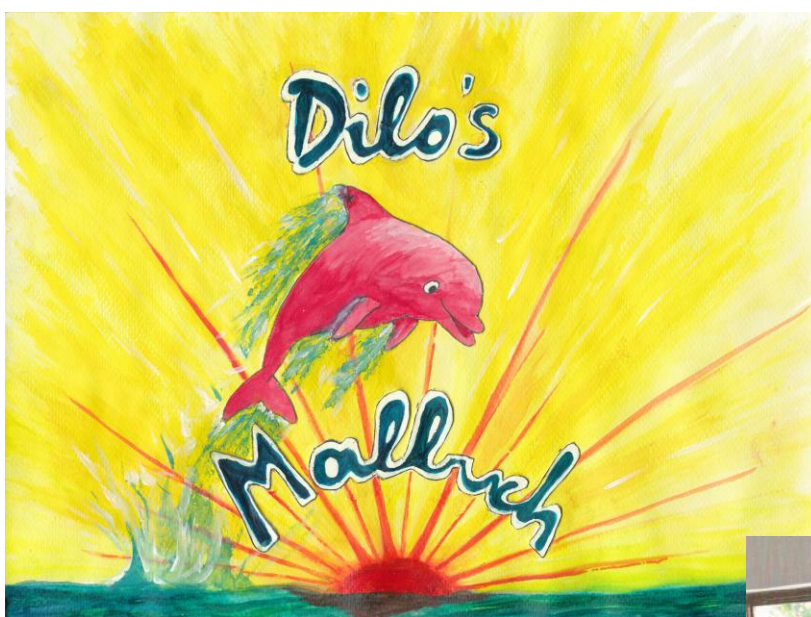
For further information visit the IDW web site on:

[http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/ideal\\_.html](http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/ideal_.html)



# Dilo's Malluch – Colouring Book illustrated by Sarah Volk

(mailto:planungsbuero.voelk@t-online.de)



Dear Sarah

I was very, very thrilled when your lovely Dilo colouring book arrived in the post.

It was completely unexpected. So too was the CD of photos enclosed with it.

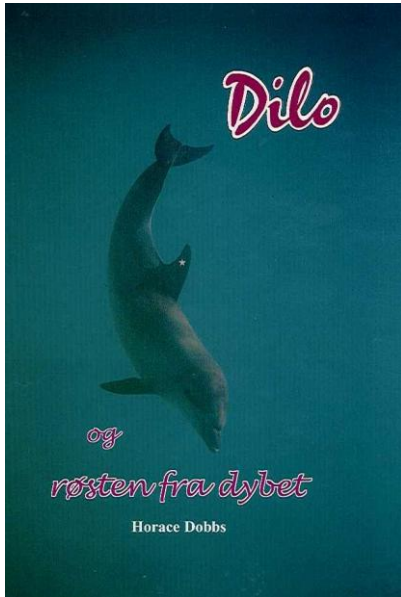
I love the way you have used Rico's drawings and added your own artistic touch to your illustrations.

One aspect I like especially is the sparkle you have added to the eyes of the undersea creatures, especially Dilo. The white spot makes them look happy and smiling - which is just right for a book for young children.

I also like the way you have adapted Rico's crab - which incidentally he calls *Nebula* - on the page on learning to write.

WELL DONE - CONGRATULATIONS.  
Horace Dobbs

## Dilo in Danish



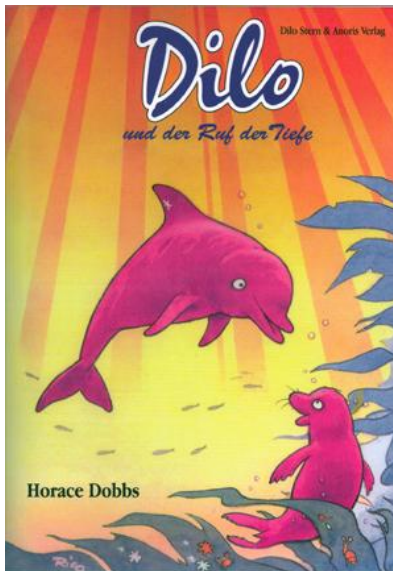
Translated into Danish by Alice Skriver and published by Lotus.

*Alice says* “The purpose of the book is a wish to spread knowledge about dolphins, to get children to reflect in which way they can help to protect our ocean and altogether show respect and gratitude to nature”.

For further information visit:

<http://www.dolphins.dk/diloengl.htm>

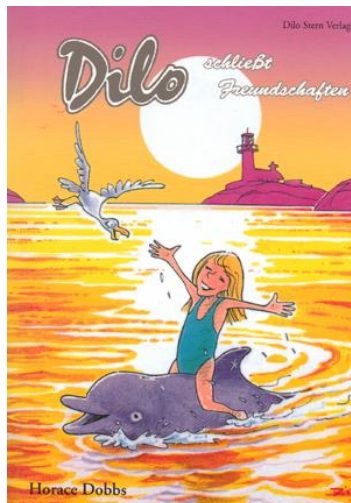
## Dilo in German



*Dilo and the Call of the Deep* (ISBN 978-3-9811203-1-8) translated into German by Birgit Baader, Anita and Raimund Scheerer. Published by Dilo Stern & Anoris Verlag.

*Dilo Makes Friends* (ISBN 978-3-941686-01-04) translated into German by Anita and Raimund Scheerer. Published by Dilo Stern Verlag.

[www.idw-deutschland.de](http://www.idw-deutschland.de) and [www.anoris-verlag.de](http://www.anoris-verlag.de)



**Fascinating Facts** in German available from  
<http://www.dilo-stern.de/dilo-buecher-c100407>

Facts in English on the ‘Kids Corner’ Page of the IDW Website

[http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/kid\\_s\\_corner.html](http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/kid_s_corner.html)



## **Mini Dolphin Festival in Germany**

### **A Special Afternoon For Large and Small Dolphin Friends in Munich**

Eden Hotel Wolff, Munich, Arnulfstr. 4 , Europa Room

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**Sunday 10 October 2010**

2pm – 6.30pm

Energy balancing adults 12€ , Children under 14 years 5€

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## **THE MESSAGE OF THE DOLPHINS**

Learning and healing with the wisdom and love of the dolphins

With special guest speaker from England

**Dr. Horace Dobbs**

One of the most famous dolphin researchers in the world. Author of  
Dilo books for children and Founder of  
International Dolphin Watch.  
(His presentation will be translated into German)

For further information visit <http://www.annapurnasshop.de/> and  
<http://www.dilo-stern.de/c/die-botschaft-der-delfine>

To register contact G. Blau Tel: 08823-936822 or

Email [annapurnablau@web.de](mailto:annapurnablau@web.de)

**(Registration deadline is Friday, 9th October 2010)**

## **Dilo Inspires Children in Ireland**

### **Children's Drawing Competition**

Copies of *Dilo and the Treasure Hunters* signed by the author will be sent to the schools of the winning entries.



**Robin Gossip**

Christchurch National School, Lower Newtown, Waterford, Ireland

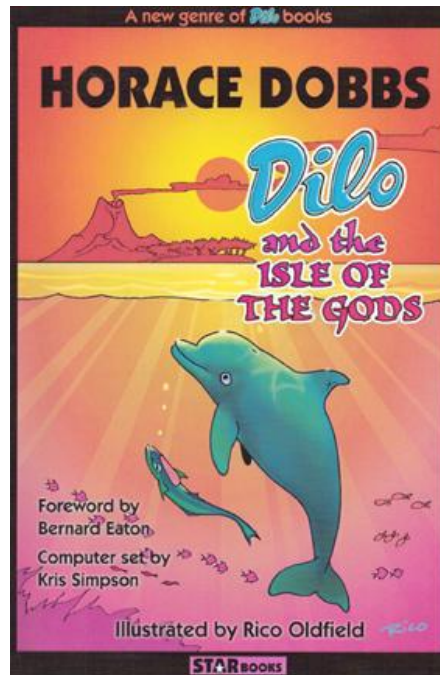


**Holly Heverin**

Ringville National School, Sheverue, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland



## Dilo and the Isle of the Gods Serialisation: CHAPTER 13



### 13. The Pelican

A SHOAL OF SMALL FISH WAS SWIMMING IN A LONG LINE ALONG THE REEF.

They fluttered like a silver ribbon in a gentle wind. As he approached, some of them darted out of his way. Now there were two shoals of fish. Both groups were getting agitated. This excited Dilo. He decided to scatter them. Like a child running into a group of pigeons, he darted among them. Dilo rushed this way and that. The fish panicked. They tried to form into safe groups but were dispersed by Dilo's antics.

"You are up to your games again aren't you?" came Rema's voice

"I know. Great isn't it," said Dilo.  
"Watch this."

The mischievous dolphin had decided to play a different

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game. Having got the fish spread over the reef, Dilo used another tactic. He herded them. Before long he had gathered the fishes into a ball. He kept them close together by swimming round them. Like a sheepdog herding sheep, he guided the ball of fish up to the surface. In their hurry to get away from him some of them jumped out of the water. It was a sign that a strange looking bird perched on the rocks was on the lookout for. An instant later it was diving down towards Dilo.

His game gave Dilo an appetite. He was just about to grab a fish for a snack when suddenly a beak plunged into the water just in front of him. In a flash it grabbed one fish, then another. From underneath the surface Dilo looked up at a pair of webbed feet. They paddled furiously. A beak plunged down as it captured yet more fish.

Dilo surfaced to get a good look at the bird who was helping itself to his dinner.

The uninvited guest had a large bill and a scrawny neck. Dilo watched it gobble the fish. They were still wriggling as they slid down the pelican's gullet.

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“Yippee”, Rema shrieked as they splashed back into the sea. She was very pleased that Dilo considered her as his “buddy” which she knew was another word for a friend.

The sudden explosion of activity startled the pelican. It took off and flew towards the island. Dilo watched it disappear into the distance. He didn’t know that the pelican had a nest in the trees well away from the shore. When it got there it regurgitated the fish it had gobbled down. They would provide a meal for its youngsters thanks to Dilo’s game.

Dilo was so excited he forgot all about the fish he had herded. When he next looked down they were streaming across the reef as if nothing had happened.

Dilo remained on the surface. He looked at the island.

“It’s a mysterious place,” he said to Rema.

Dilo noticed that on one part of the Isle of the Gods there was a long strip of dark rock. It was like a black road that started at the top of the island and ran down into the sea. Nothing grew on it - even underwater. It was as if it had just been put there.

“The turtle you were on before you latched on to me told me that the Isle of the Gods is volcanic. When it erupts it throws

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The pelican floated on the sea beside Dilo. The two looked at one another. Rema looked at the pelican too. She watched as its sharp beak stabbed into the water like a sword.

“Can we finish this game Dilo? I don’t want to be picked off your back by that bird,” pleaded Rema.

“But you are a parasite and I’m your host. Sometimes birds pick parasites off the backs of big animals on the land,” responded Dilo with his usual innocent honesty.

Rema was hurt by this remark.

“I’m not a parasite. I’m your friend.”

“Yes, I suppose you are,” said Dilo feeling a little remorseful.

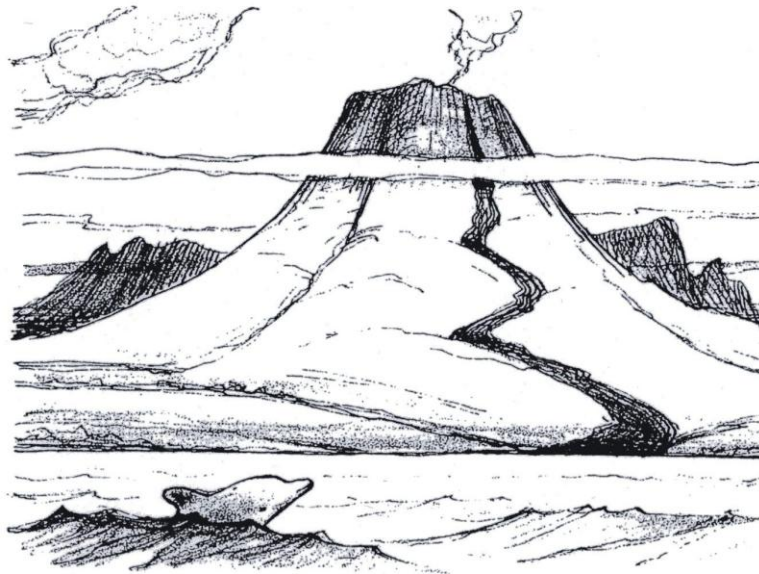
Dilo paused for a few moments pondering on the situation. Up to now he had sometimes thought of Rema as a bit of a nuisance. He changed his mind.

“My adventures have certainly been more fun having you onboard. In the future I shall think of you as my buddy.”

Dilo was pleased about this new understanding he had with Rema. So he did what he always did when he felt happy. Dilo dived down and jumped high into the sky. Rema hung on tightly.

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red hot lava out of the top that flows down the volcano like a river into the sea. As soon as the lava cools it turns into black rock. This must be the lava flow she told me about,” Dilo told Rema feeling rather pleased with himself.

“When will the volcano erupt again?” asked Rema.

“I don’t know.”

“Oh, so you are not quite as clever as you would like me to think,” responded Rema.

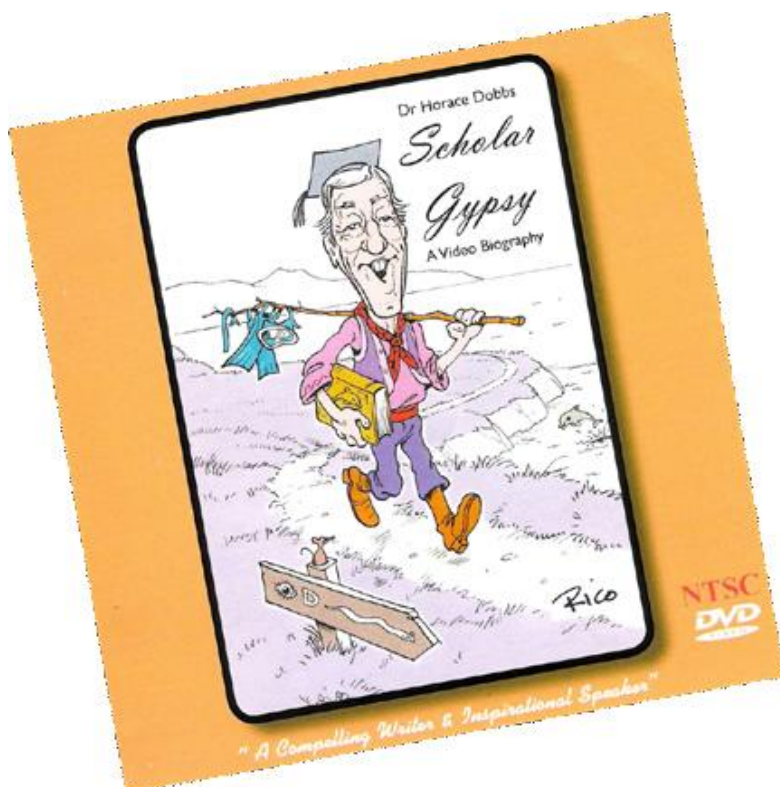
At that instant a deep rumbling sound filled the sea. The rocks shuddered. Then all went ominously quiet.

“Don’t you think it’s time we moved on?” said Rema nervously.

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**CHAPTER 14** will be in the next issue of the Friends of IDW Newsletter. An electronic copy of the complete book can be downloaded from <http://www.lulu.com/content/2713995>

## FREE DVD OFFER



**Free DVD includes:**

**Dolphins (of course)**

**Galapagos**

**Ship wrecks**

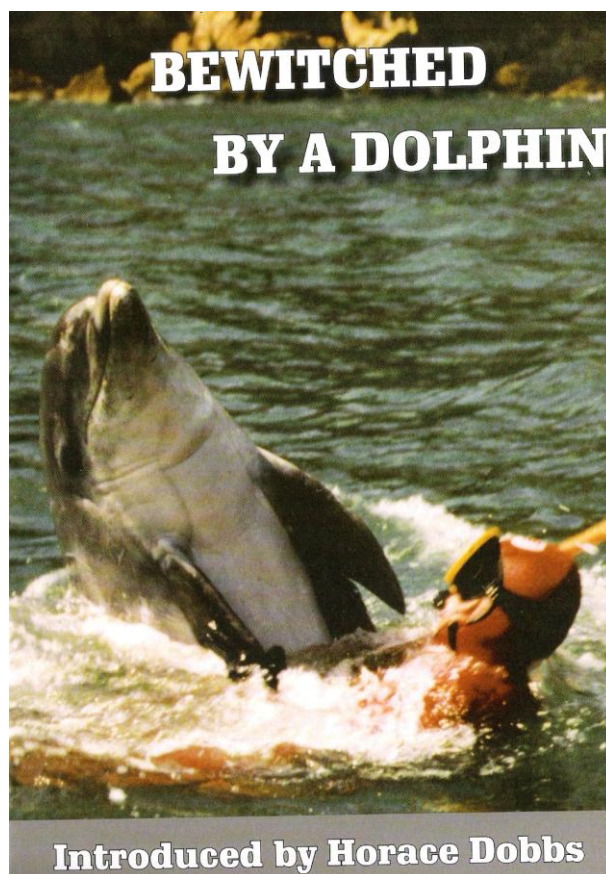
**DILO...and much more!**

**(Running time 16 minutes)**

**Offer closes  
30th September 2010**

### **SCHOLAR GYPSY**

includes clips from the IDW Classic  
Film **Bewitched by a Dolphin**  
filmed off the British Coast.



Visit our Dolphin Shop to find out more:

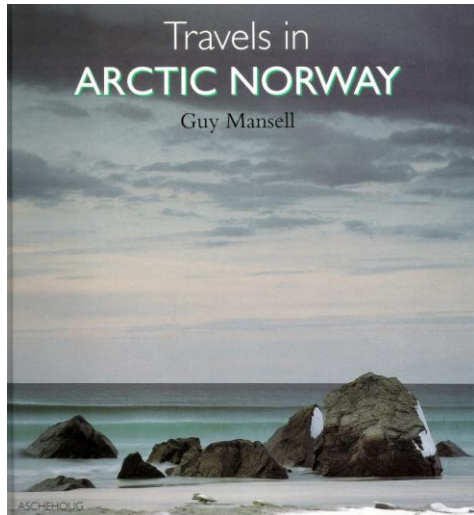
[http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin\\_shop.html](http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin_shop.html)



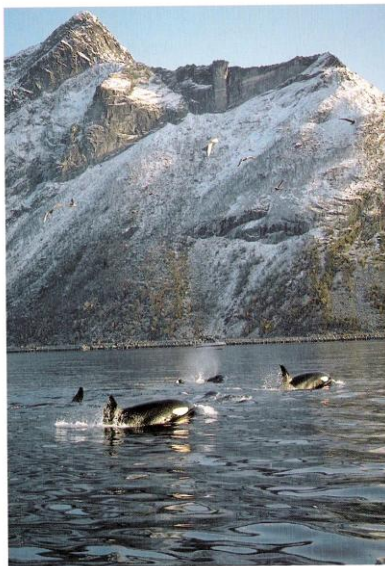
# TRAVELS IN ARCTIC NORWAY

Dr Horace Dobbs was a guest Lecturer on the Cruise Ship *Boudicca* on a wildlife cruise to the Arctic Circle from 13<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Following announcements by the ship's Captain from the bridge Horace saw a pod of Pilot whales and three small pods of Minke whales. No Orcas were seen.



The Orcas of Tysfjord



As many as 500 of Shamu's cousins, killer whales, (*Orcinus*) make Tysfjord their home from October until the new year. Locals can watch their cavortings from the comfort of their homes

A fellow Guest Lecturer, Guy Mansell, presented Horace with a copy of his evocatively written and magnificently illustrated book *Travels in Arctic Norway*, published by Aschehoug in 1995 (ISBN 83-03-22057-6) in which the author reports that 500 Orcas gather in Tysfjord between October and the New Year.

*L*ate in the summer, the whale aficionado must be in the Tysfjord, south of Narvik. This is the habitat of *Orcinus orca*, the killer whale, whose lifestyle is still a great mystery.

"I often wonder who is watching whom," says photographer Asgeir Kvalvik, who gazes at their cavortings in the waters from the front windows of his home.

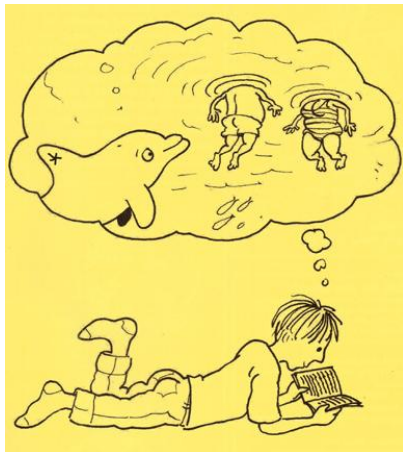
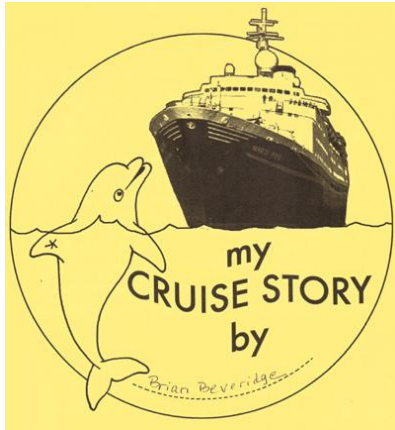
Until the new year, as many as 500 of these interesting and sociable creatures, the largest some 10 metres/30 feet long, make the fjord their home, gorging on herring. Professional observers, who usually have to suffer the rigours in some remote spot, can watch this rare sight in equally rare comfort, just like Asgeir with his family and neighbours in the hamlet of Kjopsvik, who delight in the orcas' hilarious play.

Moving in pods (family groups) ranging from five to fifty, to a constant babble of clicks and chatterings, they display a previously unobserved way of catching dinner. The fish are rounded up into a tight spiral until they forcibly "explode" out of the water. Then the Orcas charge in, for a chow-down in a melee that also attracts the gulls and sea eagles.

## Poem for Horace

On the cruise during which Horace gave 5 film/lectures Horace challenged a guest to have a go at writing his *Cruise Story* in a Dilo exercise book.

Brian Beveridge produced the following poem for Horace the next day:



The slithering, sinuous, smooth-flowing sea  
Just stretched as far as my keen eyes could see.  
It kept all its dwellers well out of my sight  
And nowt did I spot from the morn' til the night.  
With binoculars sharp did I scan every wave  
But nothing emerged from that watery grave.  
No albatross followed our ship on its way  
And only one puffin flew skittering away.  
The Captain called "whales – there, on the port bow"  
His eyesight was better than mine, I know now.  
For some nearly seen whales did not brighten my day  
And neither did porpoise come leaping to play.

I felt rather sad and distinctly ignored.  
To tell the truth, I was really quite bored.  
All day did I watch, from the morn' till the eve  
Yet nothing transpired my gaze to relieve.

I hoped for some elk or bears on the strand  
Or even a walrus asleep on the sand.  
The reindeer and foxes stayed well out of view  
And this wildlife voyage I started to rue.  
Then suddenly, gracefully, from out of the deep  
Dolphin came bursting and started to leap.  
The near setting sun cast its glow and enhanced  
The joy and the fun of their frolicking dance  
As they jumped and they chased and dived in great style  
And I could not prevent myself starting to smile –  
All boredom now gone and all sadness dispelled  
These clever performers made my day finish well.

So thank you, sleek dolphins for lightening my day  
May you always bring joy as you pass on your way.

Brian Beveridge  
July 2010



# ALICE SKRIVER – PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

(Part 2)

## Introduction by Dr Horace Dobbs



*Alice and Strange Skriver at Wendy's birthday garden party*

*Personality of the month* is a good title for this second part of Alice Skriver's dolphin adventures because she is undoubtedly **a personality**.

Alice dyed her hair bright, pillar box red when she was an art student in Paris. And she has kept it the same colour ever since. So she is very easy to spot in a crowd.

Alice wrote to me when she first became fascinated by dolphins and became a vigorous supporter of International Dolphin Watch. I guess you could say we became "Pen Pals".

I was naturally delighted when she volunteered to translate and publish *Dilo and the Call of the Deep* in Danish. And then use Dilo to introduce Danish children to the joy that dolphins can bring into their lives. But it was not until we both attended an ICERC (International Cetacean Education Research Centre) conference in Paris that we first met face to face.

You have to be a very special and motivated person if you are prepared to live with the Bedouin who are renowned for keeping their women hidden and shrouded. But that is exactly what Alice did when she found out that a friendly wild dolphin named Oline was making friends with an adolescent Bedouin boy who had difficulty relating to those around him in his shanty village of El Muzeina beside the Red Sea. As word spread about Oline, Alice worked with the village elders to set up accommodation for the increasing number of visitors from Denmark and elsewhere (one of whom happened to be me) who were arriving to swim with Oline –Throughout Oline's stay in and around Nueba Alice kept me informed of the birth and the sad loss of her babies until Oline herself was found dead.

My wife, Wendy, and I enjoyed staying with Alice and her husband Strange when we attended the Dolphin Festival organised by Flemming Larsen on the charming Danish Island of Lasoe - reported in the June 2010 IDW Newsletter.

During this excursion to Denmark I discovered that Alice maintains that laughing out loud is a good way of releasing stress and anxiety. Which she does deliberately whenever she feels the need to do so. This was rewarding for me whenever I fired off one of my intentional quips. But it came as a bit of a surprise when I made a joke unintentionally.

*Alice Skriver enthral guests at Wendy Dobbs' birthday party.*

*Photos by Genevieve Dawid*



## A Gift from the Dolphins

Knowing Alice has been one of the dolphin's gifts to me. In July she and Strange came to England to attend my wife, Wendy's special birthday garden party (organised at their home by our daughter Melanie, her husband Don, and their two girls, Rebecca and Fiona.) at which Alice gave a surprising, impromptu, brilliant and very moving speech.

And so, dear reader, it gives me great pleasure to introduce Part 2 of Alice Skriver's remarkable dolphin adventures and how these have provided her with the foundation for a **philosophy of life**, which she describes as a **"Gift from the dolphins"**, which I trust you will agree, would make the world a far happier and peaceful place if more people followed it.

### Oline

*(Continued from June Newsletter)*

*By Alice Skriver*

Oline in Sinai had a completely different personality than Flipper, much more female, more selective in her friendship, perhaps also, because many more people were coming to El Muzeina. In the beginning the best way to come close to Oline was to go swimming together with one of her Bedouins friends. She had her favorites, of course male Bedouins, as Bedouin women were not allowed to come on the beach.

I was so lucky to be there, 30 January 1996 where Oline gave birth to Jimmy and the second time 18 December 1998, when Oline gave birth to Ramadan. The first time was fantastic and also very emotional for me. We came to the place early in the morning and Abidullah was screaming, "Oline baby, baby!"

And this message was running around in the "Dolphin-world", and very quickly people from "Dolphin Reef" Eilat arrived and said that nobody was allowed to go in the water, only the people from Dolphin Reef, because they **knew** how to behave. I was annoyed - here I was coming all the way from Denmark, had only two days left and it was like a dream for me to be able to see a baby dolphin up close in the water. Then some "Dolphin People" tell me I am not allowed to go in the water. I was very emotional and very angry! We could do nothing. To go out in a boat and look from above was not what I wanted.

I was allowed to go further down the beach and go swimming, so my husband and I did that. As we had been swimming with Oline some days before, Oline came to us. She was circling and circling around us, with the calf inside towards us, so she trusted us, like saying: "look isn't he beautiful". It was such a gift and I returned to Denmark very happy. Everything was okay.

After that first visit in El Muzeina, I went back many times, and I was there when Oline gave birth to Ramadan 18 December 1998.





Even though Jimmy and Ramadan died only 6 months old, I had lots of beautiful moments with both dolphins. Ramadan was the naughtiest, he bit me on top of my head, pushed of my snorkel, much more, and he was so funny.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2000 Oline gave birth to Farshallah, which means “A Gift from God” or Jmea. Jmea was the name of the mother to Abidallah and Eid. As far as I know, she is still alive. Farshallah was hurt when Oline was shot on 9th December 2004, but she survived.

The very last time I was with Oline was during 16th – 23rd April 2004. She gave birth to a calf 14th April, Eid called me to tell me, and Friday morning 16th April I was on the plane to Sharm El Sheik. I had a wonderful week with Oline, Jmea and the newborn.



And then the bad news in December 2004, that Oline was dead. I was very sad.

After Oline and Flipper were gone, it is like the “Dolphin adventure” had come to an end for me, but I had my dream come true, to feel I had a friendship with these wild dolphins. **Such a gift and I have learnt so much that I use in my daily life and in contact with others.**

In 2008 I got another “gift” when I went together with Flemming Larsen to the Dolphin Conference in Dingle, Ireland. The gift is “Flemming”, an idealistic young man, who gives a lot to support Dolphins with Læsø Festivals for Dolphins and Art. Thank you Flemming.

One of the most important things the dolphins have taught me is to be responsible for what I think. What a wonderful world it will be the day people, like the dolphins, can “see” one another’s thoughts, so we cannot say one thing and think another thing. As everything between humans and animals is ENERGY, it is not what we say, but what we radiate, and what we are doing, which are the most important in our staying here on Earth.

Besides that, I learned to live with honesty, responsibility, respect and accept.

Accept of what IS and not what I want - things never go as you expect when you are with dolphins.

For me a “Dolphin-person” is a person who lives from the **HEART**. Some people think the heart is weak and soft. And so it can be, but the heart always knows what is right to do, and the heart can say both **YES** and **NO**. When a person speaks and lives from the heart, it seems to touch others.

Today I give advice about life and dolphins to people who ask me. And that is my purpose - to live from the **HEART** and spread **LOVE** and **JOY** around me. **THANKS to DOLPHINS and all the wonderful “Dolphin-people” I have met. Together we can light up the World.**

Forever

Dolphin Love and Joy

Alice

Denmark

<http://www.dolphins.dk>

## **FRIENDS' NEWS**

### **Super Stars for Luna**

Dear Friends of Luna:

At last, the news we've promised!

For months we've been telling you there's news on the way about Saving Luna. At last, here it is:

Superstars Ryan Reynolds and Scarlett Johansson have signed on as executive producers of a brand-new version of the film, called **THE WHALE**.

And on top of that, Ryan has recorded the new narration.

This is a huge step forward for both the prominence of the film and for our efforts to have it released in theatres in the United States.

Thanks for your interest,  
Suzanne Chisholm, Mike Parfit, and David Parfit

## **SAVING LUNA - NEW VERSION UNDERWAY**

How did this happen? As many of you know, the film [Saving Luna](#) was born because we were assigned to do a magazine article on Luna back in 2004. We were so amazed at the story of this little lost orca's determination to make friends with people that we kept covering it for years, with video cameras as well as notebooks. The film was first shown in October, 2007 at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival.



That's where we began to learn that people from all over loved Luna. [Saving Luna](#) won a major award there. Then it won the overall Audience Choice award at the star-studded Santa Barbara International Film Festival. It then went on to win a lot more honours in festivals around the world. Many of you first saw the film at one of those festivals.

But like many independent films, outside of the festivals, it went almost unnoticed in the US.

But then, in 2009, Eric Desatnik, founder of the Environmental Film Festival at Yale, discovered the film. He signed up as an executive producer, and introduced the film to Ryan Reynolds and Scarlett Johansson, who loved it. They also became executive producers, and Ryan, who is from Vancouver, agreed to be the narrative voice.

## How has this changed the film?

This was clearly a wonderful opportunity, but also a risk. How would a different voice work with this film, which was originally a first-person story narrated by one of the filmmakers?

We feel a responsibility to the integrity of Luna's story, which is a lot bigger than us, and we didn't want to mess it up just to appeal to Hollywood. Would this harm the film, or enhance it?

The answer turned out to be simple. This process has wonderfully enhanced it. Ryan and Scarlett did not just lend their names to the film; they actively participated in improving it.



With engaged commentary from them and from Eric, about detail as well as narrative sweep, we went back into the editing and writing process. We shortened the film, streamlined it, clarified it, enriched it, added new footage and sequences and made it thematically stronger. Ryan and Scarlett are skilled and thoughtful in the art of cinematic storytelling, and we learned a lot. They never tried to change our view of what Luna's story is, but they helped us tell it better.

The result, essentially, is a new film. We're proud of the old version, *Saving Luna*, and proud of how it has brought a love for Luna to many parts of the world. And we are now honoured to present, with Ryan Reynolds, Scarlett Johansson, and Eric Desatnik, [THE WHALE](#).

Many thanks for being part of this long and fascinating journey with us. We invite you to help spread the word about [THE WHALE](#) as we prepare for the US release.

For further information and to watch the trailer visit the new web site for [THE WHALE](#): <http://www.thewhalemovie.com>.

You can contact Suzanne Chisholm by Email: [suzanne@thewhalemovie.com](mailto:suzanne@thewhalemovie.com)

Follow developments on the Facebook page: [http://www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com) or Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/thewhalemovie>

## Message from Horace Dobbs

Congratulations Suzanne.

That's wonderful news.

As a film maker myself, who has studied the human/cetacean relationship for over 30 years, I appreciated from the moment I first saw *SAVING LUNA* in Dingle in Ireland in May 2008 what an exceptional and powerful story it told.

A story with a similar moral was comprehensively reported in a special issue of the International Dolphin Watch Newsletter on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 - available on [www.newsletter.dolphinfiend.com](http://www.newsletter.dolphinfiend.com)

It concerned two young men who went for a swim off a beach in Sandgate, Kent as dawn was breaking on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2007. To their surprise and delight a friendly wild dolphin, known locally as Sandy, who commuted across the English Channel between England and France, joined them.



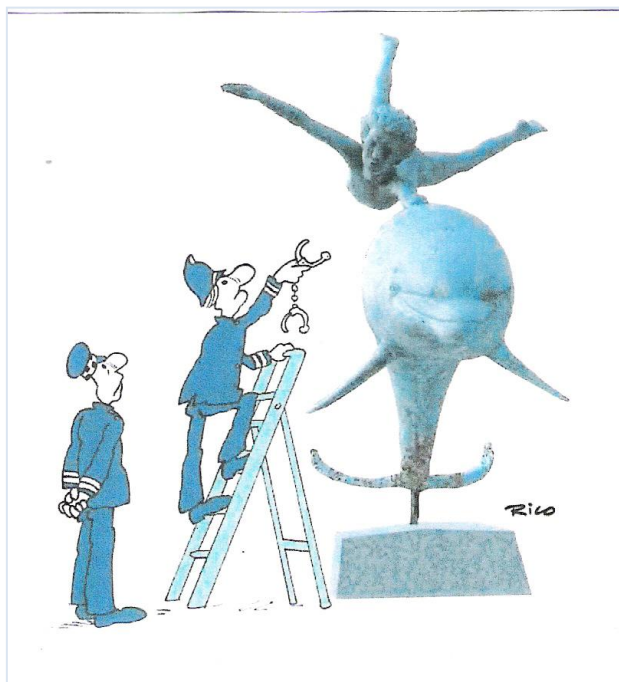
A disgruntled local resident filmed one of the men playing with the dolphin and telephoned the police. The two men were then charged and found guilty by a local magistrate of “interfering” with a dolphin. He imposed a fine of £750 and a period of community service. Finally he warned the two guilty men that they could be sent to prison if they failed to comply with his sentence.

The satirical artist Rico admirably captured the absurdity of this judgement with a cartoon showing two policemen attempting to handcuff a boy swimming with a dolphin on a famous sculpture beside the River Thames in London.

For me SAVING LUNA is an allegory that embodies the notion of the human obsession with control.

I am absolutely delighted to learn that a new version of your film, with the title THE WHALE that will reach a far wider audience, is underway.

With dolphin joy and wishes for huge success with THE WHALE,  
HORACE



## Is Dilo Alive in Belgium – hurt by a propeller?

*From Anita and Raimund Scheerer*

Today I found this article on the Internet just by accident. Here is the article translated into English. Our first thought was - it must be Dilo.

### Dolphin entertains spa visitors on the Belgium shore

A single wild dolphin entertains the visitors with enormous jumps out of the water at the Belgium North-Sea-Beach. The first time, the approx. 3m-long mammal was seen, was at the end of July at the town Knokke, just a few meters away of the beach.



Delfin "Rudolf" amüsiert sich und die Badegäste vor der belgischen Nordseeküste in Duinbergen

After that, it's supposed to have disappeared in the direction of the English Channel, and now showed up again at Duinbergen, not far from Knokke, so the Belgium TV, RTL" reported on Wednesday.

The marine biologist Jan Haelters of the Royal Institute for Natural Science said that it is probably "Rudolf", who has been seen occasionally at the Belgium shore since summer 2007. Haelters also said that usually dolphins don't swim so close to the beach and they stay some kilometres away from the shore.

"Rudolf", he says, is very nosy and curious and that is why he was slightly injured some time ago by a ship's propeller. But in 2008, when he appeared again near the beach, it was perceptible for everyone, that the wound healed up well. And even in the following years he has been turning up several times.

Dear Anita and Raimund

If you look back at the IDW eNewsletter of 1st May 2008 you will see that I was involved in a court case about a friendly wild dolphin named Sandy, who in 2007 visited Britain and played with swimmers. We know that Sandy swam back and forth across The English Channel. I suspect, therefore, that Rudolf and Sandy are one and the same dolphin.

But of course I could be wrong. They could both be DILO! After all Dilo was injured by a propeller in *Dilo Makes Friends*. He recovered afterwards with the help of one of his human friends - Debra.

HORACE DOBBS

## Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes

*Registered charity 1121315*



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

Dr. Horace Dobbs, Honorary Director of International Dolphin Watch, is the inspiration, advisor and Patron. We are currently looking for people to be actively involved in helping the charity develop further. We are limited with how many special needs families we can take to swim with dolphins in their natural environment and we see that Education/IDEAL (Integrated Dolphin Education and Learning) could be the way forward to make the maximum charity benefit worldwide. Although based in Milton Keynes England, it is a registered International Charity.

If you would like to help please see Charity details on <http://www.operationssunshine.org> and contact: [Jackieconnell@btinternet.com](mailto:Jackieconnell@btinternet.com).

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER - PLEASE KEEP YOUR STORIES COMING

**WE ARE CREATING A GLOBAL NETWORK OF DOLPHIN LOVERS  
THAT CARE ABOUT OTHERS AND THE EARTH WE SHARE.**

**EDUCATION** is a major function of International Dolphin Watch and has therefore always striven to encourage youngsters to take part in dolphin activities. I hope therefore, that you will enrol as many children as you can to become DOLPHIN FRIENDS, encourage them to contribute to future Newsletters and participate in 2010 YEAR OF THE DOLPHIN IN SCHOOLS.

Email your news and comments on articles in our newsletters to me at [jackieconnell@btinternet.com](mailto:jackieconnell@btinternet.com).

**The Friends of IDW Newsletter is FREE** but if you would like to support the work of IDW to help dolphins and people, you can still **make a donation through the Dolphin Shop** [http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin\\_shop.html](http://www.dolphinfriend.com/html/dolphin_shop.html).

If you would like to support the registered charity 'Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes' bringing dolphin joy to families of children with special needs, donations can be made through: <http://www.operationsunshine.org/html/fundraising.html>

**Friends of IDW can advertise on** <http://www.dolphinfriend.com>. Email our Webmaster Terry Connell on [terry.connell1@btinternet.com](mailto:terry.connell1@btinternet.com).

Please contribute to future Newsletters and send me your views, comments and experiences of dolphin encounters. Email: [jackieconnell@btinternet.com](mailto:jackieconnell@btinternet.com).



**Jackie Connell**  
**EDITOR**