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.

DOLPHINA
Sculpture by Ginger Gilmour
Dolphin Healing
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The Magic of Dolphins

By Ginger Gilmour

“What seems like many years ago now a voice spoke to me in a dream that said:
‘You must meet the Dalai Lama!’

It was a very powerful directive, which left me wondering, ‘How?’

It wasn’t long before my question was answered - for with the morning post I received an invitation to a luncheon where I would meet the Dalai Lama - and also, Horace Dobbs, founder of International Dolphin Watch. This meeting inspired the beginning of a process, which led me to seek the ‘Magic of the Dolphins’ several years later. Before this was to occur, a deep friendship developed between me, my four children and Horace. We looked forward to receiving each new book he published about dolphins that he very kindly sent to us. The reading of his adventures at evening bedtime took us together on journeys into this magical world for some time, while the dream of swimming with a dolphin was building in our hearts.

It was during a time in San Diego when I was travelling doing lectures with mental-colour healer, Lily Cornford, that I met a woman called Elizabeth Fortune, a facilitator of Dolphin Swims. A great sadness had befallen upon my life and my children and our hearts were deeply hurt. In my pondering of how to transform this situation, I remembered about the healing power of dolphins and spoke to Elizabeth regarding this situation.

The Sacred Embrace of the Great Mother

I followed my inner voice back to the UK
To discover a deeper cycle in the Joy of Living.

I left her shores to listen to its song in the Beauty of Hawaii
To then return and find its melody waiting here.

It was the call of Mother Nature
The Sacred Song of the Divine within us All.

And so it has happened ... my path of return inspires me
To play in the dappled sunlight on a path within the forest

Where I am transported back to moments of my childhood
Walking in the woods along the Mystic River, when life was simpler.

As I wander deeper into the forest and into the valley
My heart is nurtured, uplifted and restored.

I now wonder how I could have forgotten
To listen to Mother Earth’s treasure and to bathe in her LOVE!

Ginger Gilmour (June 2011)
As it turned out, Elizabeth worked out of the Bahamas during the winter months and I was planning to visit my mother in Florida with the children at Christmas. The coincidence was a major indication for me to book a ‘Dolphin Experience’ with her pronto! In the forthcoming remaining days of the seminar, our mornings were free, so Elizabeth suggested that I should take this opportunity to begin my relationship with the dolphins at the San Diego Sea World.

On the first day we went to one of the outdoor feeding pools, which had the female dolphins and was open to the public. As they swam by, one of the females studied me with one eye as she passed. Each time as she circled Elizabeth would introduce me to her by name. It seemed to me that she was listening and checking me out. After a while the dolphin slowed down and nearly stopped on the ledge by the wall where we were standing. At this point Elizabeth encouraged me to touch her. The sensation was like touching warm wet silk. The moment passed as she swam away but then she returned.

This time she stopped right in front of me. My stroking hand came to rest at a point on her side allowing a deeper moment of contact. And as we did so, my hand seemed to be activated with healing energy and was healing something within her body. Time stood still as the heat of my hand increased. The dolphin just stayed and stayed. Eventually, a passing stranger interrupted the silence and then she swam away. To this day I still feel the moment of having received the honour to have a mammal allow me to heal her. For I was a novice in training at the time and an experience of trust as this went deep into my heart empowering my self-confidence. To this day its essence left me feeling that I had graduated into another dimension of Life’s Great Adventure.

On the second day, Elizabeth left me alone beside the pool and as I watched these majestic beings alone in the sunshine, I decided to do my healing harmonics. I closed my eyes and as my harmonic sounds drifted over the pool the air once again grew silent. After a while as I was held within a meditative state, a gentle sound—a calling—was entering my sound....I opened my eyes to see....and...there before me were three dolphins....heads upright out of the water....joyfully making a sound in a similar tone as my harmonics. I stopped in amazement but had to continue for they made a cackling sound giving me the feeling as though they were saying ‘please don’t stop’. So I continued and each time they would close their eyes and started to swoon in graceful movements before me—always keeping their throats facing me and out of the water. This went on for some time. Each time I stopped to have a breather, they would request for more. It was as though we were communicating without words and I was entering into the world of the dolphin. As one can imagine this again was deeply moving for me but there was an experience even greater to happen the next day.

On the third day, Elizabeth took me to a third pool where they fed the male dolphins. At the time I could not imagine anything greater than the peace and affirmations, I had already received. I was just happy to be there. The males had a very different energy than the females and were very much to themselves at first. Somehow as I watched and observed, I began to feel an energy in my heart encouraging me to open and receive their love. It was then that one male came closer and kept looking at me as he circled the pool. My heart became warm as this energy penetrated deeper. Tears fell from my eyes. It seemed that old wounds were dissolving. All my life I had spent silently wanting and dreaming for deep love. I wished for my ‘knight in shining armour’ to appear—to love and be loved deeply without fear of surrender and yet still have the strength of our own identities. Then it happened. My heart was filled with such a feeling Joy and Love that I had to pinch myself to see if I were dreaming but most of all it was though there was a voice beckoning me to give more, that it was OK. To have my love accepted without the dimmer switch was quite a revelation. **To me, this was an experience into Infinite Love.** One that I shall cherish for the rest of my life. At the time, I remembered saying to myself ‘Wow! Everyone should have one of these.’

Of course in the days and years that have followed a question often arose, ‘We cannot all swim with the dolphins. There must be another way to ‘infinite love’ in modern times?’ And it was while in my studio it became clearer. Each time when I went there and began my work, the doorway opened to that timeless moment. Creativity was a key. Many say to me ‘Oh, I am not an artist.’ But I have discovered that what I experienced with the dolphin is the creative force of life itself. It is that doorway that opens when one sees a sunset, the blossom of the cherry tree, a newborn lamb and most of all it is Beauty that takes us there. It is what is precious and sacred that touches the heart that opens the way.
I have come to realize the dolphin has shown me the way to my own inner beauty and once the path is there it doesn’t go away, unless I choose to close the door. As an Artist I am now on a quest through my art to create doorways to the Beauty within, to inspire others to seek the ‘Art of Living’ through Beauty. And to remember to bathe in its essence—Beautify, Beautify, Beautify! We are the co-creators of our world, if only we realized how much we have the power to create Heaven on Earth and it lies within our Hearts. To me the dolphins are special beings who by their nature are here to help us to find our true self and perhaps by their example we can learn to live together in Peace. Hence, the sculpture of ‘Dolphina’ came into being.

In Beauty we are United...Ginger Gilmour

**Dolphins and appreciation of Beauty**

Dolphins have brains that are roughly the same size as humans but are some 30 million years older than ours. Furthermore, dolphin brains have a more convoluted cerebral cortex. This increase in surface area enabled a greater number of cells to be deposited during the course of evolution in the part of the brain associated with higher thought processes, such as appreciation of beauty in all its forms including Nature.

Dr. Horace Dobbs (February 2011)

**AFTERWORD**

Many years have passed since I have written this article and even more time has passed since those first moments of my encounter with the Heart of Dolphins. I have come to realize just how enlightened they are as beings and how much they can open the door to Love. As a result, I have sought to return that Love in supporting the movement for them to be SET FREE and if we are graced to meet with them in the wild I know it is because of the divine plan. For me, I now work with helping individuals to find that doorway within their own hearts through creativity. In addition, as an artist, I seek to create artwork which touches the viewer with Love, Beauty & Compassion...& the Magic of Dolphins which is in the air everywhere, if we just listen.

In Beauty, Ginger

An International Dolphin Watch Conference at the Open University in Milton Keynes, 5-6th December 2003, brought together specialists in science, nature and the arts from around the world to: EXPLORE THE HEALING POWER OF DOLPHINS and to: Integrate Health, Education, Research and Conservation.

This conference was organised by Jackie Connell who persuaded Ginger Gilmour to bring to the university a collection of her spiritually inspired sculptures.

Ginger kindly accepted and her beautiful sculpture, *Dolphina*, dominated the stage and infused the auditorium with the feelings of dolphin love, joy and peace that motivated the sculptor when she was creating it.

Ginger’s large angel sculpture *Aeriel* was put on display in the chapel in the grounds of the university.

You can see more of Ginger’s quest for beauty through her latest sculptural artworks, paintings, exhibitions and forthcoming lectures on her web site:

http://www.gingerart.net

Ginger and Horace with Dolphina on stage at the International Conference
Dolphina has recently been erected at a site overlooking Westfield Lakes on the south bank of the mighty River Humber.

Message from Horace Dobbs to Ginger:

I'm finding it hard to find the words to describe how absolutely sensational your sculpture looks beside the lake in one of the most magical places I know.

The soft back light from the west is perfect to illuminate Dolphina's enchanting shape and sea blue colour. Dolphina is now in a position where your sculpture can be enjoyed by guests visiting Reeds Hotel and the Lakeside Education Centre at Barton.

In 2013 Dolphina will be moved about half a mile away to a new Odyssey Cancer Care Centre http://www.theodysseycentre.co.uk/our-new-centre/.

I am extremely excited at being able to join the team creating a new Odyssey Cancer Care Centre that embraces all of the principles I hold dear and have been working towards for over thirty years.

Editors Note: Horace will report on Dilo’s Mission Odyssey in the November issue of DOLPHIN.

£1 Appeal

Horace Dobbs has recovered completely from a life threatening cancer, following post-operative treatments he received free of charge at the Odyssey Cancer Care Centre at Barton on Humber.

A new treatment centre is now urgently needed and Horace is politely asking Friends of IDW and their friends to donate £1 towards the cost of a new purpose-built centre to care for those affected by cancer.

To make a donation on line please go to http://bit.ly/gOjjJ6

THANK YOU

DOLPHIN HEALING

Dolphin Healing - 5 years on from Operation Sunshine

By Denise Doussin

Five years on and what a difference the Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Charity programme made to our family - I do not know where to start only that it gave us incredible hope and light. Operation Sunshine took us to the Bimini Island in the Bahamas and that holiday was incredible. Not just for the dolphins but it was more about the people who were there. They gave us their time, their love, their ears as some of our story came out - the hurt we felt, the loneliness we had felt in bringing up our oldest son with learning difficulties.

With tremendous effort and research, my oldest son Benoit has moved forward amazingly, so much so that authorities will not accept that my son does not still have the same alleged ‘learning difficulties’ as he did
before. We continue to fight for his right to be given an appropriate education, even entering GCSE courses (as that is now his level) and given the time and expertise of good teachers. I guess the holiday Operation Sunshine took us on, brought much light and hope for us parents who are the ones to support our child.

When people have questioned my motives about why I do this or that, I stand up and say I research the options on our path very thoroughly and I then let my heart mull over the various paths on offer. I then make the choice or the path that brings the most love to all concerned.

All around, for those who get to know Benoit, they say he is a beautiful young man, for that is what he is, he has grown into a strong young man, not just in mind, in body but in spirit. If only I could as a mother share with you many of his gifts, I would probably lose you all and create disbelief. The more I move on the path for supporting his ‘rights’ and making the best decisions, we can as parents develop ourselves and fulfil our potential. So life does have its wisdom too, despite the difficulties. I got to learn what relaxed Benoit, what wound him up and then took a path between these lines and by so doing it this way, I became aware of some of what he felt. So people became transparent to him, he could see beyond the superficiality of the exterior which in this world we see so much of, he could see beyond their qualifications or such like to the core or heart of the very person. To this day he can still assess someone easily and transparently.

That holiday provided the turning point for our family, but it is only looking back that you can see it. It’s about love, the whole world is about love and though many of us follow basic rules, our decisions or the paths we should follow, if instilled with love, however difficult they sometimes are, will work out. If we ask the’ powers that be’, a power that created the world and supports us very much, we send our thoughts, our prayers out there and then follow that small inner voice, hunches or images of where we go from here.

You as a parent are undergoing massive training and expertise but you will not know why you have to go through it. It is only when you have got through the hardships that you will know what it is all about. Our journey taught us to reprioritise our lives and to decide on who was really important and it became a journey about ourselves as much as about our ‘special’ child.

With much love and blessings to the people who supported us as part of the Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programme that year. And to those who continue to support their child despite their difficulties and the incredible love and energy it requires.

Dolphin Healing - 3 years on from Operation Sunshine

By Alastair Bradley

It was three years ago that the charity ‘Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes’ enabled me and my parents to embark upon a memorable adventure. It was a spiritual holiday for me. I will always remember the island of Bimini. A small flat chain of paradisiacal islands offering a peaceable happy occasion. It was such a calming escape being there with Bimini’s mystical nights making the stay like a magical meditation under transcendental rainbow skies, sunrises and sunsets.

In such an idyllic place our group of families found it easy to be really wonderful friends. I will never forget them.

I always remember when I was in the warm Atlantic Ocean a dolphin swum under me. I had never been in close contact with real live dolphins before, only ever seen them on television.

I felt privileged to be so close to such noble ocean intelligence. We were made happy by their playful cheerfulness. That experience stays with me, and I still sense their empathically united society. And learn from their instinctual understanding of being in tune with their ocean world. I try to learn their harmony with body and surroundings when I train my body with my trainer back in England.
CHANGING LIVES THROUGH THE POWER OF DOLPHINS

Registered International Charity 1121315

Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes is a UK based International Charity which aims to bring joy and healing into the lives of those with additional needs through dolphin inspired education and art, community projects and family retreats.

www.operationsunshine.org

Note from Jackie Connell – the Charity Founder:

You can see details about the families above and other feedback from families that have participated on our charity programme on www.operationsunshine.org.

From long term research by Dr. Horace Dobbs, we are sure dolphins can have a positive effect without actually swimming with dolphins. Dr. Horace Dobbs, a medical research scientist, has proved that the power of dolphins can influence our senses and sensitivities in very many different ways using art and music. Therefore, in between our dolphin swim retreats we are supporting various community and school projects with the concept of IDEAL. This way we believe we can make more of a charitable difference where it is needed worldwide.

You can make a donation online by clicking the DONATE button on:

Or send donation direct to the charity bank account in England. Please make payable to:

Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes

Account No 1282137
Trans code 85.
LloydsTSB
Sort code 30 15 53
PO Box 99
BX1 1LT
England.

Testimonial from Lucinda Drayton (Vocalist from Bliss)

www.blissfulmusic.com/

Operation Sunshine Remembers the forgotten people who are struggling along in life, often barely keeping their heads above water.

It takes them away from their everyday existence and gives them the trip of a lifetime. This renews hope, strength and courage. It restores a broken faith in humanity and life and it mends broken hearts.

It allows the sun to shine again. What a gift to the world.
My Time with the Dolphins on the Wildquest Programme

http://www.wildquest.com/

By Nancy Kim

Being born and raised in Los Angeles, it’s hard to slow down. Everyone and everything moves, continually changing. Society told me that I had to work hard in school, get a job and make a lot of money. While I believed in enjoying life, I found myself slowly becoming a workaholic. I took vacations and would go somewhere warm, drink prodigious amounts of alcohol, eat every unhealthy food imaginable and laze around… after all, I was on vacation! When a friend invited me to attend the WildQuest Dolphin Retreat earlier this year, I was intrigued but not entirely convinced. It wasn’t until I went through a terrible break up, that I was ready to go.

When I arrived in Bimini, I was immediately impressed with the beauty, the serenity of the island. Our first day on the catamaran, we were greeted by a pod of Atlantic Spotted dolphins. It was incredible the sense of joy they exuded as they leapt in front of the bow, virtually begging us to jump in with them. After being given the okay by the WildQuest crew, we jumped into some choppy water and communed with the dolphins. While I love scuba diving and have been certified for over 10 years, swimming and free diving with these magnificent creatures was a thrill. The intelligence you see when they catch your eye in the water is incredible. The sheer joy and vibrancy of the dolphins brought tears of happiness. It’s hard to explain to someone that has never had the chance to swim with live dolphins, so I won’t try to put it into words. Simply put, it was beautiful. I came back home with a better perspective on life. Whenever I start to prepare myself for a long haul at work, I think back to my time with the dolphins, and I make myself leave and enjoy the sunshine, enjoy the fresh air and enjoy life. We could all learn from the dolphins.

EDUCATION

Using the power of dolphins to lift our spirits and thereby make lessons joyful for both teachers and pupils.

IDEAL (Integrated Dolphin Education and Learning) a pioneering and radical new approach to education by Dr. Horace Dobbs.

IDEAL took a great leap forward when it was introduced into the national curriculum in the Czech Republic.

IDEAL (Integrated Dolphin Education And Learning)

IDEAL is the application of scientific logic to education based on our understanding of the unique bond between humans and dolphins that makes encounters, both real and virtual, with these delightful, intelligent mammals, imprint themselves in our memories.

For information please see the June/July SPECIAL EDITION of DOLPHIN.
The two summer camps in the Czech Republic were aimed at teaching the English language with fun. Dilo was the main hero.

"I WILL HELP YOU WITH YOUR STUDIES IF YOU WEAR ME ON YOUR BODIES"

This summer Dolphin Dilo accompanied two groups of children on their journey to a special treasure.

Two English summer camps for children aged 6 to 12 years were held in August (7-13 and 21-27) in Bohdankov (close to Liberec) in the Czech Republic. This time the camp story was set in the undersea environment.

The first night the children found an ancient message in the bottle. The message narrated about an old sailor Sam who sailed the sea and who wished to understand the most beautiful sea creatures and their underwater world.

One dark night a storm came and one of the giant waves tossed Sam overboard. He sank and sank deep to the sea bottom. When he thought he was going to die, he saw a beautiful mermaid, who brought him back to the surface. Because Sam wanted to stay with her forever, he begged the Spirit of the Seas and Oceans. In return he promised that he would work the whole his life for the good of undersea creatures. The Spirit accepted his promise. And so Sam spent the most beautiful and happiest years of his life. Finally he had a chance to explore the underwater world as he had always wished. He learnt the language of the fish and he learnt about how mature and beautiful creatures they are. Mainly dolphins became his best friends. It seemed to him that they have much in common. However, the Dolphins had something more – they had a special ability to learn everything very quickly and very easily. Sam fulfilled his promise and he devoted the whole of his life to protecting the underwater world. At the end of his life one of the most respected dolphins gave him a great gift – as a reward and proof of their real friendship. He said he would give to few people the same ability as the dolphins-have. Sam was so happy. But who deserved such a gift? Sam held a meeting where should be decided who would get the gift. But people began to fight and argue and they were not able to agree. Disappointed Sam decided to hide this gift. So only those people who really deserve this gift can find it. He split the map to the treasure into five pieces and hid each of them to a different magical country.

Our children got this great opportunity to search for this wonderful treasure. They had a new friend and advisor, a dolphin called Dilo, who helped them on their way. Dilo is a descendant of the much respected Dolphin who gave the gift to Sam many centuries ago. Every morning Dilo sent instructions to the children, so they knew to which country they should go, how to behave there and how to talk to the locals. And so the little sailors sailed their boat into heart-shaped country called "Hello", where they had to be able to introduce themselves and their families. Then they sailed into orange circle-shaped "Yummy" country full of sweets, where they talked only about good food and drinks. Third blue square-shaped country was called "Gggoooo "where only
Different means of transport live and where it is necessary to be familiar with conversation about the city, village and countryside. Next country was a yellow triangular-shaped fashion country called "In & Out" where everybody had to wear a nice and original outfit and the last one was a green star-shaped country full of lazy Couch Potatoes.

Every day in the morning children also received passports which enable them to enter the country in the afternoon. Children had to fill in the passports properly and learn the necessary information about the country. Then they had to learn the local anthem. Then they devoted the whole morning to acquire needed skills to survive in the country. In the late afternoon they had to find the coveted part of the map. In the evening Dilo sent them one coloured bead which they placed on their blue strings. All their efforts were finally crowned with success, and the last night they could follow a magical light that led them up to the desired treasure – a chest full of seashells, pebbles and little silver dolphins. In the chest was this message "I will help you with your studies if you wear me on your bodies". So the children hung on their strings this magic silver dolphin that will help them in their learning as their new dolphin friend Dilo helped them during their journey.

During the camp Dilo became the children’s best friend. Before going to bed they listened to reading about his childhood, after the lunch they painted in the dolphin’s colouring book. The girls created an illustrated book with other good night stories about Dilo and the boys made a board game inspired by the marine life, dolphins and pirates. The whole stay was filled with the playful dolphin energy.

At the first camp, we had even a chance to try Frolov’s breathing simulator, which allows the transition to endogenous (internal) respiration. Children could practically find out how dolphins and whales breathe, and they also learnt the proper technique of deep breathing, which is very beneficial for everyone. In the learning process, proper breathing encourages connection between brain hemispheres, improves one’s attention and helps to induce calm and concentration while learning. These techniques are very beneficial, especially for children with various learning disabilities.

Dilo was a great help and he supported the children’s playfulness and creativity. We could perceive amazing effects of Dilo’s presence, especially for the children with learning disabilities.

We are looking forward to further cooperation with Dilo and his team.

Pavla and Kamila

For further information visit DELFINO on: [http://www.delfino.cz/](http://www.delfino.cz/) and previous issues of DOLPHIN.
Dear Head Teacher

**Education and Conservation in Schools**

Education and Conservation are the two primary aims of Planet Whale [www.whaleplanetwhale/whalefest.com](http://www.whaleplanetwhale/whalefest.com) and International Dolphin Watch (IDW) [www.idw.org](http://www.idw.org).

To promote these aims, Planet Whale is organising a major international festival in Brighton on the topic of whales and dolphins during the weekend of 05-06 November 2011.

**Picture and Story Competition**

IDW and Planet Whale are organising a competition for youngsters to draw pictures and write stories about dolphins and whales to encourage children aged 5 to 11 to think about dolphins, their habitat and the need to keep the seas clean for the benefit of both humans and dolphins. The competition winners will be announced and prizes awarded during the festival.

**Free Books for Schools**

IDW is offering a limited number of free books to schools.

**Send for details**

If you would like to receive details of

1. WhaleFest
2. The Picture and Story Competition
3. The IDW Free Books for Schools Offer

Please Email details of your School and the member of staff we should communicate with, including Email address & telephone number – plus the information details you wish to receive.

We look forward to hearing from you.

With best regards.

Dylan Walker

Planet Whale
2a Church Road
Hove
East Sussex BN3 2FL
Tel: 01273 355011
Email: dylan@planetwhale.com

Cc horace@drdobbs.karoo.co.uk
Can you help us create a Dolphin App and bring dolphin joy and love to millions?

We are looking to bring the joy of dolphins to millions by creating a dolphin app for iPads.

The app is centred on the orphaned dolphin Dilo, the fictional character in the delightful books written by the renowned conservationist Dr Horace Dobbs, Founder of International Dolphin Watch, www.idw.org.

We so far have a compelling narrative in 6 wonderful books, a story board, unique underwater video footage of racing with dolphins, hundreds of superb cartoon illustrations by Rico Oldfield, a moving musical score and lots of great app ideas. What we have not yet found are people who are both App Developers, technically able to create the app, and in tune with the spirit of the dolphins.

We are looking to create an ethical app company for the Dilo app and others that:

- Rewards the app developers with a stake in the business.
- Helps to raise £3 million needed to create the new Odyssey Centre for the holistic treatment of cancer sufferers and their carers http://www.theodysseycentre.co.uk/our-new-centre/.
- Raises funds for the registered International charity, Operation Sunshine Family Therapy Programmes. This Charity aims to bring joy and healing into the lives of those with additional needs through dolphin inspired education and art, community projects and family retreats http://www.operationsunshine.org/.

If you would like to join us to make dolphin magic happen and be a pioneer of this exciting new art form, please contact Ashley Dobbs at ashley@greencitiesfoundation.org.
CONFERENCES
If you have never had the chance to hear one of Horace's inspirational talks, these are not-to-be-missed opportunities!

WhaleFest Tickets still available

IDW Members/Friends – book your tickets here:
http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1593824171/charitieswhalefest/19350885597

News from Ian Rowlands, Co-founder Planet Whale:

The whales are coming to Brighton! WhaleFest 5-6 Nov 2011, UK.
Europe’s biggest whale & dolphin celebration!

For interest, as well as Dr. Horace Dobbs, Founder of International Dolphin Watch, here are just some of the other confirmed speakers:

- **Mark Brownlow**, producer of the recent BBC Ocean Giants series, will be speaking on the impact of such programmes on the whale watching industry and showing footage from the series and from BBC Blue Planet.
- **Mark Carwardine** (BBC Last Chance to See), on Baja California.
- **Philip Hoare** (author of Leviathan) on Whale watching in Sri Lanka (compared to Azores, New England and NZ).
- **David Rothenberg** (author of Thousand Mile Song), playing and talking on how to make music with live whales, describing his experiences making the CD WHALE MUSIC.
- **Mark Simmonds** (WDCS) on The British and whale-kind - our relationship through history.
- **Claire Bass** (WSPA) on Whales in culture, culture in whales - cetacean intelligence and culture & how human cultures impact.
- **Plus** talks on Hebridean whale watching (HWDT), Blue Whales (School of Whales), Bay of Biscay (ORCA), English Channel (MARINElife), underwater Acoustics (BDMLR), Fin Whales (ORCA) etc.

This is just a few examples of what will be on offer at this spectacular event.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our main sponsors, DFDS Seaways, Hilton Metropole Brighton, Gardline Environmental, SO Magazine and World Society for the Protection of Animals.
'Consciousness Conference'

19th – 20th November 2011


Conference details and ticket sales:

http://www.consciouscommunity.co.uk

For further details Email: travelleroflight@aol.com  Telephone: Shamanka  01473 620118

Guest Speakers include:

Drunvalo Melchizedek

Lionfire

Patricia Mercier (Alloa)

Dr. Horace Dobbs

Christopher Douglas

Mary Leonard

Mikhail Baker

Dagmar Magdelena Ceki

Shamanka Angel-Heart

Special Musical Guests Kausary and Lee Garbutt

+ Interactive Vision Council.

As a culmination of the weekend event, all Speakers (including Drunvalo by interactive web stream) will participate in interactive discussion with the attendees.

Participants with questions will be invited to write them down and place them into a suggestion box, to trigger topics to be discussed.
How Our Desperate Need to Reconnect is Killing What We Love the Most.

Oceans cover 70% of our planet. Home to three quarters of life on earth, we are ALL responsible for the care of the oceans and her wondrous lifeforms.

Yet the sea bed is the final resting place to countless corpses of cetaceans and other marine wildlife, never seen; from pollution, collisions, sonar, weapons, and fishermen.

We pour detergents and chemicals into our waters; while our sewage is dumped into the sea as if down an infinite plughole. We claim to love dolphins and whales, yet our unconscious habits poison the home of the most serene, ancient caretakers of this planet.

The air is filthy, while the earth collapses under our heavy feet. We are toxic; overloaded with diseases, chemicals, addictions and a seeming inability to be satisfied with what we have. Disconnected from that which sustains us; we destroy our home in a desperate bid to reconnect. The irony would be comical if it were not so tragic.

Dolphins and whales, guardians of the earth for 35-50 million years, live in peace, joy and community; one with their environment. Their Universal language spans both the globe and the ages ~ ancient wisdom passed on in haunting songs through our vast oceans.

Just what can we learn from these magnificent beings?

Dolphins Calling

I had been dreaming of dolphins for some time. Friends began speaking of them; and calling me 'dolphin sister'. Something big was changing in my world.

In Oct 2009, my children's father and love of my life died. Assaulted by two youths in 2000; paralyzed in a wheelchair, he drank to ease his pain. Nine years after his assault, Mark died from alcohol poisoning. Three months later, my daughter's Godfather also died from alcohol poisoning. The grief was all encompassing.

My dolphin dreams became stronger. It has been said that dolphins bring joy to those in sorrow. I believe that, in my despair, they helped me find the strength to carry on.

Exhausted from grief and three years running a Ketamine Awareness campaign for young addicts, my children informed me I couldn't save everyone; it was time to save myself. From the shores of sun-kissed Brighton, I heard the dolphins and whales calling me to join them. With no expectation, save a longing for some joy in my life, I set off for Hawaii.

My first swim with wild Spinner dolphins took me to where nothing else mattered. Emanating pure love and joy, they looked into the depths of my soul, and I filled with immense love. With each dolphin encounter, I could feel my grief lifting and my heart opening. Totally loved and accepted, I began to heal in their joyful presence.

One morning in Kealakekua Bay, we were joined by a pod of 25-30 dolphins.

A mother and her calf swam beside me. In awe of
the bond between them, the mother seemed to know of my grief and loss. I felt her say 'I love you. It will be all right.' I told her I loved her too, as she disappeared into the depths with her baby. The next morning, my shoulder seized with grief, as though the dolphin had drawn it out of me. I considered how we cope with grief like a tap, releasing a little at a time, so as not to overwhelm ourselves. And how the dolphin cared enough to not only notice my deep grief, but to lift it out of me! Loving, joyous beings; dolphins also appear to be great healers, who give without being asked; and want nothing in return, save our well being. Perhaps they understand that when we are healed, we will care for the planet the way they do. Through their own desire to connect, I knew I had been blessed to swim with these wild dolphins.

Three months later I took an Internship in Panama City, Florida, studying Dolphin Assisted Therapy with children with learning disabilities. The unexpected challenges I met were huge; yet, through their unconditional love, the dolphins continued to teach me to open to love. Every day, I witnessed destructive behaviours from seemingly unconscious people. Yet the dolphins were a constant reminder to keep my heart open; keep finding forgiveness.

Risking a $20,000 fine, I saw tour operators and boat captains feeding fish to begging dolphins, to assure more paying customers. Their fear was that if they did not feed them, the dolphins would disappear, leaving them with no income. Teasing the dolphins, people pulled empty hands out of their pockets or waved dollar bills around; pretending to have fish. Mother dolphins left their calves unattended to beg at the side of boats; a behaviour that would not happen in the wild, where pods employ synchronistic team-work to hunt. Swimmers dived to touch the dolphins, risking a $2000 fine, while no-one appeared to be enforcing regulations, and most people seemed oblivious to the detrimental and potentially dangerous effect their behaviours might be having on the animals. With an abundance of schools of fish in the bay; lone dolphins with no pod had become reliant on humans for food; forgetting their survival instincts, hunting abilities, natural behaviours and even their own babies. Most dangerously, they were now unafraid of humans; and therefore at a much greater risk of being captured for captivity or killed.

Every day, up to 30 jet skis, 40 people, and 3-4 boats chased 2-3 dolphins, often just a mother and baby, giving them no rest period. Swimmers jumped in, screaming, often on top, separating calves from mums. One swimmer hung on to a fin, with the dolphin struggling to break free. A tour guide led 8 jet skis in the dolphins path so they could not come up for air; lethal for calves needing frequent breaths. Cigarette butts were thrown in the ocean. I even heard tales of fishermen shooting dolphins because they eat the fish!

Ashamed to be human, I looked in horror at the potentially catastrophic effect we were having on the dolphins, and asked “What are we doing? What is our lack; our desperate need to be with dolphins to the point we endanger them by altering their behaviour? And what is it that they are giving us that make us crave their presence so much?

I believe we look to the dolphins to remind us to care for our environment. Yet despite our claims to love them, we capture them, domesticate them and destroy their environment with our ignorance and addictive nature, with no regard to the consequences.

Disconnected from that which sustains us, we lack gratitude, humility and acknowledgement that all we need is right in front of us. The lesson, to me, is very clear.

If we are to survive, we need to quench our insatiable desires, stop seeking joy ‘out there’ and find peace within; become one with our world, in harmony, the way dolphins and whales have always been. We need to enter their world with respect, without endangering or harassing them. We need strict codes for responsible conduct in the ocean; education on marine conservation and how not to disturb natural behaviours. Dolphins should be granted regular rest periods from tourist activities, enforced by fines if necessary.
My experience in Florida was a stark contrast to Hawaii. Wild dolphins in Hawaii are free, swimming and hunting in pods; a calf always by its mother's side. Panama City, where captive dolphins in 'Dolphin Swim' centres span the coastline, domesticate their wild dolphins, endangering their survival and putting them at risk of captivity. The beauty of wild dolphin swims is that the dolphins come to us of their own accord. Dolphin interactions with humans should be their choice not ours. By addressing our own issues, perhaps we may regain our own self-dignity, respect for wildlife; and allow nature to follow its own course; giving the dolphins the choice to once again be truly wild and free.

**For All Who Love Whales and Dolphins**

Thank you to Ulrike from Germany for sending us this positive and uplifting Film

[http://albert-schweitzer-stiftung.de/aktuell/walrettung](http://albert-schweitzer-stiftung.de/aktuell/walrettung)

As well as these photographs from her recent reunion with dolphins in the Bahamas on the Dolphin Dream programme:

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN UP
SYNCHRONIZED WHALE WATCHING DAY
17 SEPTEMBER 2011 PONTA DO OURO-MOZAMBIQUE

The 17th September was a busy, busy day that kept us going from sunrise to sunset! It turned out to be a great day for our environment with the coastal clean-up and synchronized whale watching events taking place on the same day this year.

For the past decade DCA has been co-ordinating the annual event in collaboration with KZN Wildlife, PPMR, Ocean Conservancy and this year Cento Terra Viva in Mozambique. Companies, locals and friends joined in the clean-up that started at 11am. Diana co-ordinated the event from the Dolphin House where rubbish was weighed in before being taken to the dump. DolphinCareAfrica would like to say a big thank you to all involved. Elaine and Nadia also deserve a special thanks for tackling the border road last week.

This is the third year running for the synchronized whale watching day that takes place from Ponta do Ouro all the way up to Kenya. The main species of focus is the humpback whale, however on this day our first sighting was of a southern right whale and her offspring whilst out at sea! The ‘busy’ness of the day found us having to do both land and sea based observations for SWWD this year. We would like to say thank you to Planet Scuba for the use of their deck which provided a great observation platform as the whales were way offshore. Thank goodness for elevation and good binoculars! They day found us count 28 whales between 7am and 5pm, two of which were the southern rights.

33 volunteers supported the clean-up that saw some 40 bags being collected. The rubbish weighed in at 494kg’s and was collected along the beach from the border to the end of Ponta do Ouro’s Bay during a 2.5 hour period.

All rubbish was entered onto data cards supplied by Ocean Conservancy and will be sent through to be included in the global events collection! The clean-up included a snorkel in bay clean-up and divers were asked to collect rubbish off the reef during dives. Two vehicles with volunteers worked on the beach from Malongane down while the rest of the crews covered the stretch of Ponta’s Beach. A big thank you goes to all that were involved. A team tackled the bay which was found to be nice and clean with only a few items dived out which is great news. Apart from the normal litter, many rusted ‘gazebo’ poles were collected once again.

SCALE
DESERPTELY
NEEDED PLEASE HELP
In order for us to weigh the load we need a specific mechanical scale. If you are able to sponsor one or assist us in obtaining one please contact us. research@dolphincare.org

NEXT CLEAN-UP
MONDAY NOVEMBER 7

SPONSOR A BIN IN PONTA CAMPAIGN
A worthy campaign that will see the containment of rubbish has been started by the Keep Ponta Tidy Group. Please sponsor a bin for R360 for Ponta. These bins will be evenly distributed throughout the area, have your company branding and will assist Ponta in keeping Clean!
Please contact michelle@pontapatrol.com

Special thanks to those that gave up their time, vehicles and staff for this worthy event.
PPMR
Planet Scuba
Simply Scuba
Back 2 Basics
Gozo Azul
Dolphin Encounters
Semele
Surf’s Up
O Lar Do Ouro
Magenta Moon
Ponta Patol
BeachBar
Fishmonger
Campismo
Leatherback
Candice
Bonnie and John
Emma
Chris
Tim
Sacha
Taryn
Daryl
Sorry if we left anyone out!!

Dolphin Care Africa
http://dolphincare.org/
Snorkling encounters with Humpback Whales Silver Bank, Dominican Republic.

Specific dates open Feb/March 2012.

Imagine peacefully floating in the water, eye to eye, side by side with a humpback whale mother and her calf. Until you've had the experience of connecting physically, emotionally and spiritually with these magnificent, intelligent beings of the Sea, you cannot even begin to imagine how it can change your life. My first encounter with the humpbacks in Silver Bank was in 1999, since then I've been back 8 times and each encounter stirs my Soul and touches my heart just as powerfully as the first one. The great whales have taught me many lessons over the years about facing my fears, to be with them is all about deep Soul work, their energy and aura is huge! Spend a week among the humpbacks living on board a lovely chartered yacht in Silver Bank. You'll never be the same!

Stolen Eggs - The Coast in Costa Rica

For all of you who have heard about global warming causing the decline in sea turtles.

Aha, maybe we have just discovered why the sea turtle is going extinct & it is not global warming!
In the year 2011, we welcome you to the lush tropical abundance of Hawaii's Big Island, where we have been led to live peacefully in times of remarkable, extraordinary changes. Come enjoy the beauty of nature, sun and stars at Sky Island Ranch, our remote mountain home, where we host week-long excursions into higher consciousness.

This is a Gathering for people who would like to move ahead to the next phase of their spiritual work and understanding. There are positive changes of great magnitude, unfolding now. We will share many inspiring messages with you. This new and life-changing information will bring you tremendous joy, along with physical and spiritual gifts of fulfillment as we experience the new timeline on our planet.

Here at Kealakekua ("Pathway of the gods") we honor the significance of that Hawaiian code name. Entering the deepest places of spiritual wisdom, we open communication with dolphins, whales, star friends, animals, nature spirits, butterflies, birds and multi-dimensional, 5th realm, finer-frequency beings of Light who respond to our loving presence. They are here. You can quietly enjoy their company.

THE DOLPHINS

The dolphins are always our kind friends, reminding us of what is important in life. As we float among them, we observe their peaceful and meaning-full behaviors in the clear royal blue waters. In their presence, we absorb powerful new thoughtforms, which imprint our consciousness with inspiration, love, appreciation, serenity and intelligence. These qualities remain a part of us, to guide us in our lives. We understand the value of our diverse experiences on Earth and our heartfelt friendship with the cetaceans of the world.

November 20 - 26 ~~ Dolphins and Thanksgiving
December 4 - 10 ~~ Gathering of Dolphins & Angelics

EMAIL TO REGISTER:
joan@joanocean.com
21. Dance of the Manta Rays

THE SPECTACLE THAT TINA HAD TOLD DILO ABOUT TOOK PLACE EARLY ONE MORNING.

Dilo was idly swimming offshore. He was scanning the deep water with sonar. His magic sound told him that two very large animals were approaching. They were behaving in an extraordinary way. Dilo wanted to find out what they were doing. For once he was patient and waited for them to arrive.

He didn’t have to wait long. Two giant manta rays came into view. They flew through the water with leisurely flaps of their huge wings. The rays had large horns on the front of their heads which they waved slowly, like the flukes of whales. They used them for scooping food into their mouths.

But the mantas were not feeding. Dilo was mesmerised. He didn’t move as they came towards him.

Dilo saw one side, then the other. The topsides of the rays were grey. Their undersides were creamy white with dark blotches.

The rays were swimming in giant loop the loops. Following one another they zoomed down to the seabed. Then up to the surface they soared, turning upside down as they went. The mantas were courting. They ignored Dilo completely. Their dance of love was an endless series of barrel rolls.

Dilo remained still. One of the mantas glided past him.
It was so close it almost touched the dolphin. The expanse of white that swished past was like a stretched sail. Slits opened, briefly revealing rows of gills.

As the giant manta continued to roll Dilo noticed it had another companion. Rema saw it too. A single remora was attached to its smooth, white belly. For a moment Rema wondered what to do. Here was an opportunity for her to leave her present host. Should she abandon Dilo and join the dancing mantas?

Dilo knew what was going through his passenger’s mind. He followed the mantas closer and closer to the island. As he pondered on what decision Rema would make, something else caught Dilo’s attention.

Flocks of seabirds were gathering overhead. They were squawking loudly as they swooped down to the beach greedily grabbing at food. In an instant all thoughts of the mantas left the dolphin. Beneath him Dilo saw something else he really wanted to see before he left the Isle of the Gods - a tiny turtle.
IDW was founded in 1978 as a non profit organisation for the observation, conservation and study of dolphins - especially their relationship with humans.

Our aims and values have always been to make sure the seas and rivers are clean, healthy and productive for the benefit of both humans and dolphins; To respect the rights of dolphins to a free life in their natural environment; To recognise that since earliest times, dolphins have had an affinity with humans and allow this to evolve.

IDW has contributed to saving lives of countless dolphins and enabled thousands to achieve their dreams of meeting dolphins, free in the open sea.

**OUR SLOGAN FOR 2011 IS EDUCATION, INSPIRATION, ACTION AND ACHIEVEMENT.**

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

Friends of International Dolphin Watch receive news and exchange information on a host of topics via this monthly online magazine. If you would like to be added to the International Dolphin Watch database and receive notification when the online Magazine goes live, please Email idw@talk21.com

Email your news and comments to me at jackieconnell@btinternet.com

Please spread the word and share this Magazine with friends and colleagues.

Jackie and Terry Connell

**EDITOR and WEB MASTER**