

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

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Dusty The Dolphin

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Dusty The Dolphin

■ by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 12:59 pm

Apparently in 2000, after Tom scattered some of Dusty's ashes off the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland, the locals noticed a female dolphin swimming in the sea below. She was particularly friendly and eager for human contact so they dubbed her Dusty. Here's the website dedicated to her:

<http://www.irishdolphins.com/dusty.asp>

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1681

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [neonouille](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 1:58 pm

Thanks Maggie, I didn't know that. 😊

Samuel (Sam or Hawkeye) 😊



[neonouille](#)

Can I get a witness



Posts: 3488

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:35 am

Location: Quebec, Canada

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [karen](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 2:25 pm

Remember reading this a while back Maggie thanks for posting..nice pictures too... 😊

Attachments



dusty2004_jc1009_04 Dolphin.jpg (21.5 KiB) Viewed 1192 times



[karen](#)

I only want to be with you



Posts: 18105

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 6:48 pm

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [daydreamer](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 6:41 pm

I have a couple of clippings about Dusty the Dolphin, this is from the Daily Mail in 2004. The heading was "I swam with Dusty the Dolphin"

THREE years ago we were on a summer holiday in County Clare, Ireland, and one of our party said: 'There's a dolphin that's appeared off the coast near Fanoore and bathers are going in with her. Shall we go?'

We drove from our base in pretty Ballyvaughan along the coastal road that hugs the huge limestone outcrop known as the Barren, and looked out at the grey Atlantic. You'd hardly dare fish in it, let alone swim. Beyond the battered shore, the Aran Islands loomed in the distance.

Uninviting — but then again, swimming with dolphins is one of those life-goal achievements that is supposed to bring you everlasting joy. Last year, a BBC survey for the programme 50 Things To Do Before You Die placed it top of the list. Apparently, the experience could alleviate depression, autism, headaches — you name it. We had to give it a go.

We pulled up outside one of those stretch bungalows in which the Irish specialise, climbed over a stone stile and walked down to a little rocky inlet.

Some say the experience can cure headaches and bring inner peace. Oliver Bennett and family put on their wetsuits...

This was the dolphin's stretch of water and immediately we spotted one of these wonderful creatures pambolling away with seven swimmers in wetsuits.

We got in. A few swam out to greet it, but the dolphin was obliging enough to come in to swim with those who didn't want to be out of their depth. People such as me. You'd be paddling around, water up to your hips, and suddenly an enormous grey torpedo would be grating against your legs.

In Ballyvaughan's warm Monks pub afterwards, we talked about the sentiments that seemed to be invested in dolphins. Was it that toothy smile, or the feeling that sociable dolphins genuinely seemed to enjoy the company of humans, or the uplifting hint

of species cooperation? Certainly, it left me feeling elevated, although I wasn't sure it had cured my dandruff or whatever it is that dolphins allegedly can do.

My daughter Matilda was hooked. The remainder of the holiday was taken up with single-minded cetacean swimming to the point of boredom — often I'd look out at the metallic sea to spot my offspring 100 yards out between a choppy wave and a vast dolphin tail.

As the days went on, we became aware of a hard core of dolphin aficionados. One was a German woman called Ute, a banker from Frankfurt, whose leisure time was taken up with dolphin swimming. The local

FIND OUT MORE AT
www.thisistravel.co.uk
Have you swum with dolphins? Write us an online reader review. The best each week wins champagne

press had also turned its attentions to the tourist trade that the dolphin was encouraging. They didn't want it to become another Dingle Bay, where a famous old trawper called Fungi supports a dolphin industry.

Also, the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society had pinned a warning notice and a name — Fainne — to the stile, and the farmer had become fed up with grockles rambling over his thin stretch of land between the road and the sea.

Meanwhile, Matilda had done her own research. The dolphin, she insisted, was not called Fainne or even Mara, as others had it, but was known as Dusty.

This was after Dusty Springfield, whose ashes had been scattered into the sea at the nearby Cliffs of Moher, suggesting to the romantically-inclined that she was the reincarnation of the London-Irish chanteuse. Well, it was as good a story as any.

That holiday ended but the pestering remained. Last summer, we went back. Things had changed somewhat. The dolphin was still there, but there'd been a huge local furor about the tourism that she had lured.

Double-yellow lines had been painted outside the bungalow. Fierce notices had been pinned by the landowner, warning of action against trespassers.

WE MANAGED — no doubt to the chagrin of the farmer and the locals — to find a tight parking spot. The problems hadn't put off the swimmers. If anything, there were more than ever, mostly in a little cove, 400 yards from the earlier spot, where capricious Dusty had moved.

And, again, there was Ute, who had come to know Dusty extremely well — swimming out with her, tickling her stomach and bringing her floating toys which Dusty dragged underwater and didn't bring back.

Our routine was similar to the last time. If Dusty wasn't around, we would walk into the water and clack two stones together, the call to play. Dusty was highly reliable.

There were few times in which she didn't appear — and fewer in which her loyal followers didn't show up, too.

All the ineffable, innocent magic of this dolphin swim had brought with it a conflict of several interests. The farmers didn't want people on their land. The council was discouraging swimmers, worried that someone would drown. It wasn't Dusty's fault, but she'd turned into a problem magnet.

And me? Was I in sparking form? Less depressed? The truth is that this curmudgeon hasn't noticed much difference, but I'm thrilled to have achieved what others have only dreamed of. And I shall be keeping an eye on Dusty's progress, as she swims into her fourth tourist season in Fanoore.

CREGG CASTLE, CORRANDULLA, CO. GALWAY

BRING your spoons — they like an Irish knees-up at Castle Cregg and guests invariably join in. And there's no getting up too early. You can sleep until midday and still sit down to a generous Irishman's breakfast of home-grown free-range eggs and freshly baked bread.

Meals are served at an antique table seating 18 guests, appropriate for a castle dating back to 1548. Owners Pat and Ann Marie Broderick are relaxed hosts who encourage guests to help themselves to tea

and coffee at any time. Welles are supplied if you fancy a walk on a 'soft' day. Wander around the farm with Ziggy, the garlic bread-eating sheep and Johnny the donkey. In the evening, meet the two-legged residents for a drink in front of the log and turf fire in the Great Hall.



WHAT TO SEE: Visit the historic town of Galway or pack your rod for fishing traps along the Cregg river. Explore Connemara and the mountains called the Twelve Bens, Kylemore Abbey and the Letterfrack National Park are close by.

DRIVING TIMES: From Galway City: 15 minutes' drive
WAKE UP CALL: B&B costs about £50pp (70€pp) when two share. Look at www.creggcastle.com or phone 00353 91791434.

There's a part of you, that's a part of me...

Carole x



daydreamer

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 6:58 pm

"Some say the experience can cure headaches and bring inner peace..."

Sort of like listening to the real Dusty.

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1681

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 7:13 pm

karen wrote: Remember reading this a while back Maggie thanks for posting..nice pictures too... 😊



dusty2004_jc1009_04%Dolphin.jpg (21.5 KiB) Viewed 1162 times

Hey wait a minute - do dolphins usually have green eyes?

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1681

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [jeffery](#) » Mon Feb 06, 2012 10:24 pm

Had to think a minute,... 🤔 but I get it.

Very observant Maggie, and nearly the same shade of green as Dusty's. 🐬

" The man with the child in his eyes " Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [dolphinstudy](#) » Thu Feb 23, 2012 10:06 am

Hi guys,

Dusty the dolphin is still very much a live and well and yes its true that she was named after Dusty Springfield, she first showed up in Doolin co. clare, in . She has many names but Dusty is one of them, If you want to know more about her you can follow dolphin Days Ireland on Facebook and on our site www.dolphin-days.com

[dolphinstudy](#)

I start counting

Posts: 1

Joined: Thu Feb 23, 2012 9:56 am

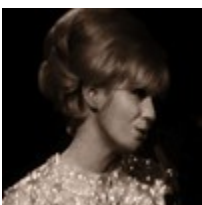
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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [Sara](#) » Thu Feb 23, 2012 11:50 pm

Hiya, glad to know she's still alive and well! 😊 Just been reading about her on your website, that's so cool how she tries to copy humans to understand them, and used to steal their things when she was younger 🤪 Dolphins are so clever, thanks for that, I love reading about animals 😊

Sara x



[Sara](#)

Where am I going?

☆☆☆

Posts: 807

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:19 am

Location: England

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [Carole R.](#) » Fri Feb 24, 2012 8:07 am

Yea, good to hear that Dusty the Dolphin is still going strong. Maybe you should try giving her a microphone...she might try singing to ya! 🎵 🗣️ Thanks for the interesting link Vanessa and welcome to LTD. 😊 CR xx

"Nothing is forever, always is a dream."



[Carole R.](#)

Wasn't born to follow

☆☆☆☆☆

Posts: 2971

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:27 am

Location: Manchester England.

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[Re: Dusty The Dolphin](#)

■ by [jeffery](#) » Sat Feb 25, 2012 6:24 pm

Carole R. wrote: Yea, good to hear that Dusty the Dolphin is still going strong. Maybe you should try giving her a microphone...she might try singing to ya! 🎵 🗣️ Thanks for the interesting link Vanessa and welcome to LTD. 😊 CR xx

That would be a sure thing. Dolphins are known to sing to each other. 🌿
" The man with the child in his eyes " Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

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