



Puck and her calf.

Baby disappears

THE dolphin calf that was recently born at Monkey Mia disappeared in late June.

Its mother, Puck, is the daughter of Crooked Fin, who is another beach regular, so the calf was a third generation beach visitor.

The male calf, which was wrongly sexed at first because of its rolls of baby

fat, visited the beach at Monkey Mia with its mother within hours of its birth. This is unusual for such a young calf. The youngster was Puck's third calf since 1987, none of which have survived. It is thought that the calf died from natural causes.

Wild dolphin calves have a high mortality rate,

because of threats from predators.

A large tiger shark was spotted 300 metres from the beach for a few days after the birth.

Dolphins can be quite aggressive and will attack large sharks in order to protect their young, evident by scarring on some animals.



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