



October 2011

Nautilus SCUBA Club Newsletter

Cairns QLD AUSTRALIA

<http://www.nautilus-scuba.net>

Photo by Phil Woodhead



Email: secretary@nautilus-scuba.net

Dive Trips
Club Meetings
Guest Speakers
Trip Reports

TUSA Dive, Deep Sea Divers Den, Reef Magic Cruises, Mike Ball Dive Expeditions,
Cairns SCUBA Air, Calypso Reef Cruises, Poseidon Cruises



Photo by Phil Woodhead

- CLUB DIVES
- DISCOUNTED DIVING AND DIVE GEAR FROM OUR "FRIENDS OF THE CLUB"
- MEET NEW DIVE BUDDIES
- RECEIVE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER EMAILED TO YOU
- ANNUAL OVERSEAS TRIPS... AT CLUB PRICES !



October Club Meeting

Wed 26 October, 2011

Cairns Marine Radio Club
MacNamara St, Cairns

7.15 pm start with a BBQ

Guest Speaker

Phil Woodhead

Underwater Photography

Everything you wanted to know....

And MORE !!!

*Club Raffle... trip for 2 on TUSA 6
Drawn on the night !*



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2011-2012

Nautilus

Club Membership is due !!



Discount period has expired....

\$90pp

Go to the website for details...

<http://www.nautilus-scuba.net/membership/>

And continue to enjoy club benefits

across the universe !!!



Photo by Rob Beaman

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Monthly Club Dive

Can vary... but often one of the first Sundays each month...

Reef Magic Cruises

Date: Sun 6th November, 2011

Where: Marlin Marina, Cairns

Time: 8am

Cost: \$162 for 2 dives

Booking: Reef Magic ph: 4031 1588

Make sure you email confirmation to

divecoordinator@nautilus-scuba.net

Cut off Date: Sun 30th October, 2011

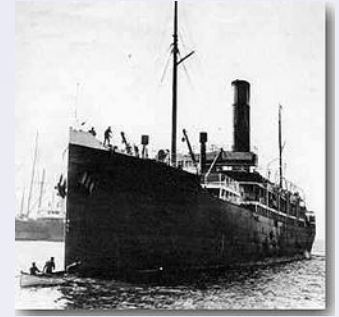


Images by Reef Magic Cruises

Yongala Dive

... by member request

Dates: Sat/Sun 26-27 November, 2011



Where: Yongala Dive, 56 Narrah Street, Alva Beach
(104km south of Townsville) www.yongaladive.com.au

Directions: Take the Bruce Highway South directly into Ayr, at the first roundabout (by the Church) turn left into Burke Street which leads into Beach Road. Continue on for approx 16kms through the cane fields until you come into Alva Beach. As you pass the Alva Beach Tourist Park take the next left into Narrah Street - the Dive shop is the last premises on the left.

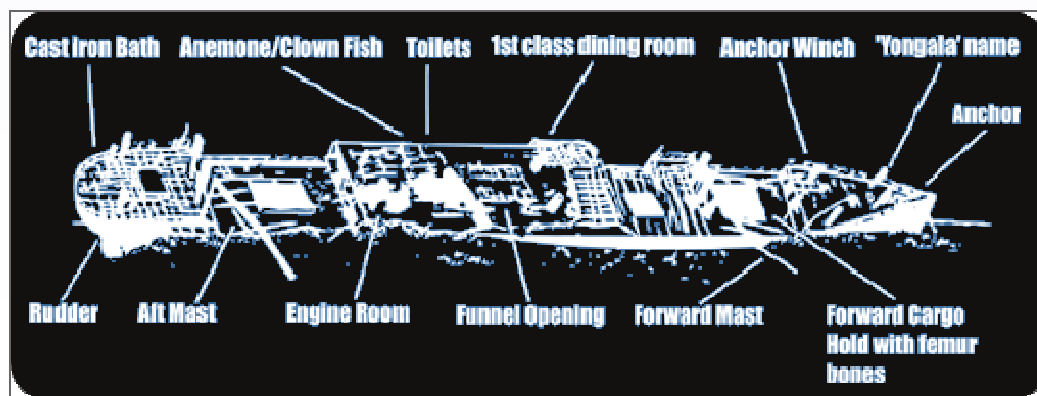
Time: 7.30am both mornings from Yongala Dive

Cost: \$180 with your gear, \$207 with hire gear, plus \$19 mooring tax

Accommodation: Dorm accommodation is \$27 and the queen room is \$65.

Booking: Ring Simone at the Yongala Dive Centre on 4783 1519, and then email me divecoordinator@nautilus-scuba.net

Cut off Date: 4th November. (Please note, this is earlier than normal)





October Day Trip Report

Poseidon, Port Douglas

Sun 9th October, 2011

Sitting at home one lazy September afternoon I glanced at my log book and realised that I had not been diving since the last international club dive to Palau ... December 2010. What on earth had I been doing all this year and how on earth was it almost Christmas again?

SLACK is the word that immediately came to mind!

And so it was that a sneaky e-mail was sent to Chrys, the dive co-ordinator, to subtly suggest a trip out of Port Douglas at some point in the near future (always a favourite trip for Andy and I). Astonishingly, a few days later, the October dive trip is announced as 'Poseidon.' Well, if you don't ask you don't get (a motto that I strongly stand by). Try it next time you want that pay rise – it usually works!

The pressure was now on – “Andy - have you got \$300 spare in your pocket – we have to go out on Poseidon in October?” - it somehow would have been rude not to under the circumstances!

The 6am alarm went off – do we have to get up this early on a Sunday? Looking out the window, we couldn't believe our luck. The weather had been great for the past week and today was no different. Sun streamed through the bedroom window and we could not see a single palm frond rustle in the non-existent wind outside. Conditions were perfect.

Jumping in the car and making our way to Port Douglas along the coast road – in my mind, one of the most scenically impressive and gorgeous drives in the world – we still couldn't believe our luck – the water was glassy flat and we even made it straight through the road work traffic lights at Ellis Beach. Two of our compatriots for the day were not so lucky – Mirek and Karen were delayed at the lights only to peer across the ocean and witness a school of dolphins frolicking in the sea – arghh – all signs so far - this was going to be an awesome day!

(Cont.)



Photo by The Tour Specialists

October Day Trip Report cont.

Arriving at the marina in Port Douglas, we were merrily welcomed on board by the friendly Poseidon crew who showed us to our set up area and then into the saloon where we caught up with fellow 'Nauti' members for the day over a hot beverage and freshly made muffins – a healthy 13 in total consisting of Eden, Tracey, Judy, Kevin, Frank, Andrew B, Mirek, Karen, Ro, Pam, Shey and Andy and myself.

The destination for the day was Agincourt 4 and we smoothly made our way out to the reef with plenty of space on board to relax and move around the boat as they were only at half capacity for the day – an added bonus. With an hour and $\frac{3}{4}$ travel time to our destination, we took the time to catch up (some of us on sleep) and set up our gear.

Our first dive site for the day was at Chapel Reef. Keeping the wall to our right (and heading in the opposite direction to the rest of our group), Andy and I headed off for the allowed 45 minutes exploring the crevices of the wall and enjoying the sheer feeling of being all alone with no other divers in sight until towards the end of the dive. Pink anemone fish were in abundance, along with nudibranch, a cool lionfish nestling on the side of a bommie creating plenty of opportunity for that perfect picture, and a rather large, if somewhat sedentary, turtle creating new meaning to a lazy Sunday morning.

After a quick surface interval back on the boat and a short hop and a skip to the next site, we found ourselves kitting up again for our second site of the day – Gary's guts! Another wall dive and one with a sheer drop off to over 40 metres. The Nautilus members all headed off in the same direction, keeping the wall to our right and keeping enough distance between ourselves to enjoy the delights on offer. More nudibranchs, a white tip reef shark, a dog tooth tuna and a variety of good fans and feather stars were all spotted. A beautiful coral garden was awaiting us towards the end of the dive being shown off in all its glory by the sun streaming down onto the reef and displaying some healthy coral in both hard and soft form. I spotted one of the largest anemone I had ever seen (inhabited, as usual, by a couple of playful nemos). We even saw a couple of blue tang ('dory' to the non diving world) making it feel a little like the set of a pixar movie. (Cont.)

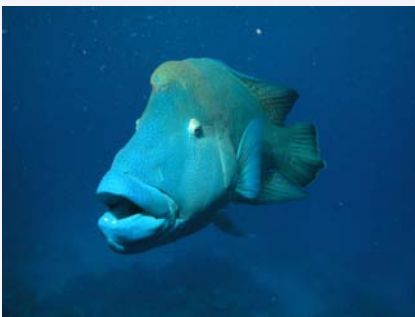


<http://www.themoviedb.org>

October Day Trip Report cont.

At 25 degrees water temperature, the 'Nauti' crew were a little cold upon re-boarding the boat. Wetsuits were discarded rapidly, dry clothes on and straight into the saloon to plate up from a sumptuous buffet of cold meats, prawns, pastas and salads, followed by an array of fruits. Warmth beckoned and the girl members (plus Andy) were straight out onto the front deck to enjoy their lunch and soak up some rays in preparation for donning those cold, un-enticing wetsuits again.

There seemed to be a theme attached to the dive sites on the agenda today, as we kitted up again ready to jump into another area of the male anatomy.... this time – Phil's backside! Another wall dive, with a large bommie located at the start, we swam against the current and along the wall for about 20 minutes before heading back towards the boat (unsurprisingly much quicker). Brittle stars, feather stars, an array of fans, boxfish,



puffer fish and fusiliers were amongst the usual suspects with more good visibility of about 15 metres. Ro and Pam managed the swim through on the bommie (as described during our dive brief) and spotted a maori wrasse (the only one of the day).

Back on board we warmed up, discussed the highlights of the day and enjoyed the cruise back into Port Douglas. The weather had been great, the diving splendid (if not a little cold for me – I class myself as a tropical dive snob these days – anything below 26 degrees is just too cold) and great company.

A huge thanks to the wonderful crew of Poseidon who, as usual, ensured our day out on the reef was a magical one.



Debbie Ratter



Spirit of Freedom

14 Day Far Northern Exploratory Trip

Mon 23rd January to Mon 6th February 2012

10% Discount for Nautilus Members booking directly with TUSA

www.spiritoffreedom.com.au

Ocean View Deluxe Cabin	\$9790pp (less 10% \$8810)
Ocean View Standard Cabin	\$8890pp (less 10% \$8000)
Quad Share Cabin	\$6490pp (less 10% \$5840)

Plus gear hire, nitrox fills and alcohol



Bookings: Spirit of Freedom ph: 4047 9150

Or TUSA Dive Shop 4047 9120

Photos by www.spiritoffreedom.com.au

*Spanish Dancer you are such a Prancer
Coloured like a dress of a Flamenco Dancer
Red, White, Yellow its colours for all to see
Swirling round like a great Tapestry
Wow, Wow please take a bow
You have no need to wipe your brow
In a World of uncertainty
You are a Marvel of Diversity
Six gilled, weird but no Monstrosity
Swirling, Whirling you are such a Curiosity
Spanish Dancer dance as only you can do
Show an end to Mediocrity*

By Andrew Bristoe



Photo by www.bsac.com

Club Member Information



- ⇒ Any advertising for the newsletter will need to be presented at a Committee Meeting (once per month) for approval
- ⇒ Early Bird Membership renewal cut-off date will be 31 July yearly
- ⇒ Nautilus Club Policies and Rules can be found on the club website

Any questions, do not hesitate to contact Committee Members

... details available on the website

<http://www.nautilus-scuba.net/>



Photo by Janet Smith



Photos by www.godive.co.nz

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