



August 2016

- Dive Trips
- Club Meetings
- Guest Speakers
- Trip Reports

Nautilus SCUBA Club Newsletter

Cairns QLD Australia

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

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Bearded Goby: Phil Woodhead

August Club Meeting Wednesday 31st From 7pm... Junior Eisteddfod Hall 67 Greenslopes Street, Cairns

GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker at next Wednesday evening's monthly meeting will be Dr Teresa Carrette from JCU. Teresa's Phd research was on the irukandji jellyfish. Along with Nautilus member Dr Robin Beamon, Teresa was very involved in the production of David Attenborough's recently aired documentary series on the Great Barrier. Teresa has also been involved in the production of documentaries on sharks for the Discovery Channel. Further details on Teresa and her work can be found on her website:

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

also in this article:

http://www.walrdiver.com/diving_in_Behind_the_Scenes



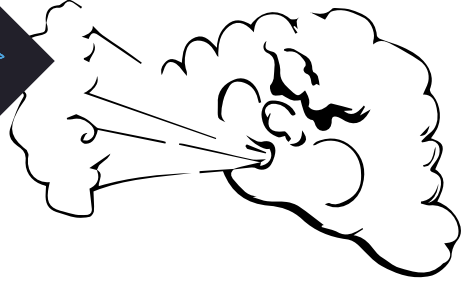
Teresa's presentation will primarily focus on her work on the irukandji jellyfish, but she's also happy to take questions about other projects she has been involved in.

Local dive trips and get together information

*Please note that the news letter does not publish prices on trips offered

August 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Club meeting



Calypso - Port Douglas
Club day dive trip
Contact:
dive-coordinator@nautilus-scuba.net

Social get together at the Iyara Thai Restaurant.....
see emails for details.

September 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Club meeting



As an extra in September the club is organising a wreck diving weekend to the Yongala, with Yongala Dive, Ayr.

Accommodation is being reserved for the nights of 23rd, and Saturday 24th September. Diving is on the morning of Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th September.

To pay and book contact Yongala Dive directly on 4783 1519, and tell them you are with the Nautilus booking.

Check your members emails for prices and further details.

For our September Trip we have provisionally reserved 12 places on Tusa 6 on Sunday 11th.

Tusa does not reserve a spot until payment has been made in full.

To pay and book, or for more information, call Tusa directly on 4047 9120. You will need to be at E Finger of Cairns Marina at 7:40 for an 8:00 departure.

Remember to tell them you are a Nautilus member.

Once you have booked, please let Mark know so he can keep track of who is going.

markearney54@gmail.com

NB Tusa allows unguided diving, and they also have Nitrox tanks on board (subject to availability).



Special dives will be organised in addition to the regular monthly day trips, these could be with Reel Cray-Zee, Rumrunner, and could be day trips or weekend trips to the reef or the Yongala. Better watch your emails for future announcements.

Get ready for ReefBlitz!

Throughout the entire month of October 2016, you can contribute to a snapshot of wildlife & habitats from coast to coral.

ReefBlitz is a month-long program of activities and initiatives designed to inspire the scientist in all of us and capture a snapshot of Reef health and biodiversity.

Check out the range of citizen science program that you can join to help look after the Great Barrier Reef in this hands-on workshop.

The workshop will:

- Share a quick update on Great Barrier Reef news and follow-up bleaching surveys
- Recap how citizen science can help provide useful information for reef science & management
- Offer an overview of reef-relevant citizen science programs
- Provide an interactive session with citizen science monitoring resources to help you share your findings with one of the featured ReefBlitz October Observations programs

In addition to the October Observations, mark your calendars for one or many of the coordinated events taking place in Cairns the weekend of October 29/30!

Presenter: Nathan Cook, Manager Tourism Stewardship Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

WHEN

Monday, September 5, 2016 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM (AEST) - Add to Calendar

WHERE

Stratford Library - 11 Kamerunga Rd, Stratford, QLD 4870

This event is FREE, but your RSVP is required, as space is limited. Please let us know if you have booked, but cannot attend so we can make your space available to another participant

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/get-ready-for-reefblitz-tickets-27189947866>

This event is brought to you by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and members of the Great Barrier Reef Citizen Science Alliance with support from Cairns Regional Council.

Presenter: Nathan Cook, Manager Tourism Stewardship Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Great Barrier Reef and throughout Australia. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and future.

www.gbrmpa.gov.au

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Presidents report from the AGM

27 July 2016

Dear Nautili,

On the 27th of July we have had our AGM and we can report that it has been again a great year for our club. We all feel the club is buzzing with energy and goodwill.

The club is in a sound financial position and we keep seeing a steady increase in the number of members. This year we ended the tally with 145, up from 139 last year.

Some [dive] highlights:

- Club dives on the 2nd Sunday of every month with either Tusa 6 from Cairns or Calypso in Port Douglas, with the extra and more special dives planned on the other weekends
- The Yongala trip with the Kalinda from Townsville, which made night - and early morning dives on the wreck possible.
- A trip to the Lady Bowen and The Black Pearl with Reel Crazy,
- 3 top overseas trips to PNG and Palau,
- the Xmas trip with beautiful festive fingerfood afterwards and of course
- Our annual Minke Whale trip. This year with Deep Sea Divers Den
- Our annual Underwater Photo Competition, which has proven again to get the best shots out of our members.

A few changes we have implemented this year:

- A dive calendar with dives and activities planned for more than 6 months in advance. You can access the dive calendar on the website and view it either in diary- or list format.
- Membership form on line - you can apply for membership via our website now. It has never been so easy to renew your membership.
- The Nautilus website has been adapted for use on mobile devices
- We added a Frequently Asked Questions page so new members can find answers to their questions easily
- Our logo has been updated from a image of the Nautilus shell to an image of a live Nautilus - more modern and in line with the current energy of the club. Thank you Phil for doing such a terrific design job.
- We made a 'back up First Aid kit' available for members on overseas trip. Thank you Lyn for putting the Kit together for us.

I would like to express my gratitude to the whole Management Committee for their hard work and support over the last year. Shey, Deb, Alison, Glen, Rick, Judy, Akiko, Lyn, Aaron, John, Bryan, Asa, Ian and Mark: you have made it possible for this club to thrive.

Due to personal and work circumstances Deb, Glen and Rick had to step down from their committee roles and I want to thank them for their hard work. We were very happy that Mark, Ian and Asa stepped up immediately and made sure that the committee work was not interrupted.



OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Presidents report from the AGM

I want to say a special thank you to Phil Woodhead as our new Newsletter Editor. I don't know whether you noticed, the newsletter is full of incredible imagery and articles about marine life, and on top of that Phil somehow manages to wrangle numerous dive reports from our members! There is this secret squirrel thing that eats at us.....[read the newsletter!]

We are happy to be able to announce the winners of the Nautilus Club Awards 2016:

Awards

Club Member of the Year 2016

Bryan McManus with his McManus Dream Team: Roxanne, Alana and Caitlin. The January Lake Eacham BBQ was a super highlight, those self made cracklings....

Outstanding Service Award

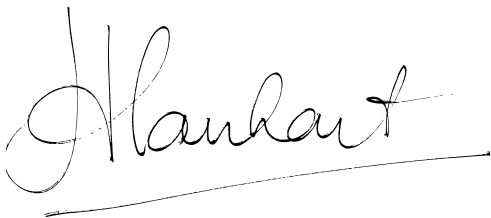
Rick Evans for his excellent job of modernising and streamlining the membership process. Becoming a member is now an easy process.

Bubblehead award 2016

Valerie Valdez - for wondering why she was negatively buoyant and leaving a trail of silt behind her when diving in Lake Eacham wearing about 25 pound of lead. Valerie has since made considerable improvements with regards to her buoyancy, which means we can expect her back on the surface so that we can continue to enjoy her awesome smiling and supportive enthusiastic diver self.

We are looking forward to a new dive year with new dive destinations, lots of dive activities and loads of dive fun.

On behalf of the Managing Committee,
Jannemieke Hanhart
President Nautilus Club
2016



Bryan get a Nautilus Logi



Valerie gets an aid to buoyancy.

Trip Report from Club dive on August 14th on-board Calypso departing from Port Douglas

We were with 10 divers: Tim and Susan, Lyn and Malcolm, Judy, Jannemieke, Stuart, Paul and Asa and Ian.

Weather was good, but chilly. Water temp was 25C or lower according some dive computers. Dive sites were Nobody, Stone Henge and Advanced, vis about 15m at the first dive and about 10m on the last dive.

According to Tim there has been an increase in the population of cuttlefish over the last year, and to prove his point he spotted at least 3 at one dive!

Judy and I spotted one lazing about just on top of a bommie and taking his time to change color and calmly withdraw in dignity.

It is difficult to assess what the damage is from the much talked about coral bleaching event. There do not seem to be many 'bleached' corals anymore. But we saw a lot of dead coral with algae, which comes after the bleaching. It was difficult to see whether coral was recovering or half dead. But there was abundant fish life. With a special highlight of a whaler shark who got a good clean at Advanced Bommie.

The Calypso staff was very nice and welcoming. They had about 20 other divers to cater for so we made sure to be quick and easy and out of their way at the start of each dive. Which worked very well for all of us.

On the way back the sea was pretty rough and we had to keep ourselves entertained in order not to feel a bit green at the gills. All in all, we had a very good dive day.



Trip report from Lissenung Island by Phil Woodhead



I was fortunate enough to win the club members choice prize from the Nautilus Photo Competition which is a 7 night 5 day diving holiday sponsored by Dietmar and Ange of Lissenung Island Resort, so last July I decided to celebrate my birthday in style on a tropical island getaway.

Lissenung Island is located about a 30 minute boat ride from the shores of Kavieng in Papua New Guinea.

Getting there is easy from Cairns, I left at mid-morning and arrived just after sunset, the local Air Niugini flight does go via Rabaul which adds another landing and take off along the way.

I do have to mention that for those who have not traveled to PNG for a while that the Jacksons International Airport has undergone a complete transformation and is a pleasant space to be waiting for a plane, and the domestic terminal is also getting a make-over.



Coming into Port Moresby



Leaving Rabaul as the sun sets

The first thing you see when you alight from the boat and walk up the beach is the welcome to Lissenung Island sign on the beach hut/sitting/ al fresco dining area.



I was greeted by Ange and Dietmar and it was good to see them again as I have known them both for a number of years. Much catching up was done over dinner that evening along with the resident Japanese dive guide Nozaki, who I have also known for a long time.



L - R, Nozaki,
Dietmar,
Ange

As luck would have it I had landed between groups so had the whole island to myself for a few days.

The diving is easy and the sites are close, two boat dives in the morning, followed by lunch, you can then organise to do more boat dives or just take advantage of the unlimited diving on the great house reef, which is literally a step off the beach.

The diving has something for everyone, muck, walls, wrecks and of course the house reef.
Did I mention the water was 29 deg C, I know it was tough but I managed!



House reef



House reef



Cryptic Shrimp



Denise Pygmy Seahorse



Deep Pete



Tiny Frogfish



Tiger Cowrie



Der Yang



Sometimes Nozaki joined us on dives but otherwise my guide was a local called Thame, who is also a long term employee of Lissening Island and can find most things and has extensive knowledge of the local reefs and diving conditions.

Night dives on the house reef are fun and busy the reef is full of different Sarron Shrimps, crabs, nudibranchs, (a Spanish Dancer) two hours just speeds past.



Marbled Shrimp

Sleeping takes place in bungalows which are on the outer perimeter of the island. Each one is roomy and comfortable with an en-suite. They can also be configured as doubles, singles, or twins.

The restaurant is traditionally built and has a sand floor, a lounge area, a coffee machine and a fully stocked bar fridge.

The food is great, fresh produce delivered to the door or purchased from Kavieng market.

I had forgotten just how relaxing being on the island is, I only did 15 dives in 5 days, but most of those were well over an hour. I think my best was 3 hours on the house reef one afternoon.

A great place with great people and I just want to say thanks again to Dietmar and Ange for sponsoring the club with such a great prize.

P.S.

Maybe the club should revisit next year?



My bungalow



Lunch arriving



Dining room/bar/lounge



Great sunsets

Profile Eden Gray-Spence

Getting home from school and watching Lloyd Bridges in Sea Hunt on TV was a big thing for me as a boy and it planted the seed in my mind to go diving when I got older. I finally gave it a go in when I was twenty. No training agencies like PADI in those days. Just learnt the fundamentals ("don't hold your breath") from a friend in Sydney's Clovelly Pool, and then went diving, by myself, off Port Moresby where I had been posted during my Army National Service. In blissful ignorance with no gauges, tables or BCD, I survived a few fairly shallow dives and then gave it away for almost twenty years.



Eden is the one in the middle

A chance encounter with a keen diver in Darwin in the late 80's reignited my interest so I did a dive certification course (FAUI), bought some gear, including a BCD which was a novelty to me, and started diving again. As the viz in Darwin Harbour is around 5 metres on a good day, photography wasn't high on the agenda! I was happy just to do the occasional dive.

I moved to Cairns about 10 years ago and began to dive on a more regular basis. Membership of the Nautilus Scuba Club was a retirement gift from my NT workmates.

After a couple of years diving in the clear water of the GBR and going on a couple of overseas trips with the Club, I thought about giving underwater photography a go. So I bit the bullet and bought a fairly low spec Canon point and shoot in a plastic housing. My early attempts were fairly disappointing, but I learnt the basics and then bought a great little Canon S95 which was one of the best compact cameras at the time for UW photography and a Recsea aluminium housing which was also highly regarded.

I started to get some minor awards in the annual Club photocomp and my hit rate certainly improved after participating in a photography workshop in Anilao, in the Philippines, a few years ago.

My growing interest in general photography led me to buy an Olympus compact system camera with interchangeable lenses about two years ago. I also got a Nauticam housing for it so I could continue with my underwater photography.

Cairns is a great place for the underwater photographer, for both local opportunities and as a stepping off point for diving destinations in PNG, Indonesia and the Philippines.



Feature Article meet a club member/underwater photographer continued.....

More underwater images from Eden



THINGS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT NEED TO KNOW

The Nautilus Scuba Club 2017 Calendar
will be available at the September club meeting

What does our readership think of having a second hand dive gear page?

Photographers...remember next years photo comp has a new category which will be
BEHAVIOR (no Andy, not the photographers, the creatures they take pictures of).
So start looking out for sea creatures behaving badly!



*"No, we're not going on a long vacation.
We're going scuba diving for the day. He
always has to pack every piece of scuba
gear he owns."*

Supporting the Nautilus Scuba Club



LISSENUNG ISLAND RESORT
Kavieng • Papua New Guinea



DIGITAL DIVER
• take only pictures, leave only bubbles •



CALYPSO
snorkel and dive



TUSAT6
Dive

PRO DIVE
CAIRNS



PARTING SHOT



image by Phil Woodhead

Lizard fish