



May 2016

Nautilus SCUBA Club Newsletter

Cairns QLD Australia

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

E: secretary@nautilus-scuba.net

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

Editor: Phil Woodhead



May Club Meeting Wednesday 25th

From 7pm...

Junior Eisteddfod Hall
67 Greenslopes Street, Cairns

All the usual treats ,BBQ, Raffle,and the Nautilus pop up shop

See below for this months guest speakers

Our guest speaker this month is
Nathan Cook,
Manager of Tourism and Stewardship with GBRMPA.

Nathan will be updating the club on the current coral bleaching event and responses to the event.

Local dive trips and get together information

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

May 2016						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

↑
Club meeting

June 2016						
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27	28	29	30			



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

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).

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

The Nautilus SCUBA Club underwater photo competition photo display, judging results and prize giving will take place at the Cairns Colonial Club, Jardine Room.

This event showcases the hard work of all the Nautilus underwater photographers, (and the standard of images submitted gets better every year) to quote the judges.

This venue and event replaces our normal club meeting and venue.

So come along, there is a bar, there will be food, and there will be a display of great underwater images.

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.

Minke Whale Trip in July 2016

Nautilus Club Minke Trip 4 DAY 4 NIGHT and Up to 16 Dives.

Departing Friday 1st July
Returns Tuesday 5th July

- Max 36 pax and ONLY Doubles and Twin cabins available
- Transfer vessel limited to 60 pax (normally 80)
- Payment due 45 days prior to departure. If trip is not filled by this time we would open it to other customers at normal rates.

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

With the help of our good friends at Deep Sea Divers Den(DSDD), we have organized a Minke whale trip this July to replace the Taka trip which was canceled.

John Brown at DSDD will be contacting everyone who was going on the Taka trip to ask if they still want to go on the new trip(details below, but very similar in dates and price to the Taka trip). If this applies to you, and you haven't heard from

him, give him a call.

The remaining spots are open to any club members.

To book, or if you have any questions, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN BROWN AT DSDD DIRECTLY on 07 4046 7333 and tell him you are a Nautilus Club member. Details below. If the club haven't filled the boat 45 days prior to departure, it will be opened up to the general public.

Itinerary

Day 1 (Friday)

You're journey starts here! Check-in at DSDD shop 319 Draper Street at 08:00 to board transfer vessel ReefQuest. We make our way to the Outer Barrier Reef where we will enjoy two dives on Norman Reef, before transferring to OceanQuest at approximately 14:30 and steaming overnight to the Ribbon Reefs.

Day 2 (Saturday)

Wake up to the sun rising over the Great Barrier Reef. We will enjoy four dives at various sites on the upper Ribbon Reefs, including the world famous Cod Hole. The Cod Hole is home to a family of large Potato Cod. Be surrounded by these intriguing and friendly creatures as you immerse yourself in

their underwater habitat for a truly unforgettable experience. Four dives are included in today's itinerary, including one night dive.

Day 3 (Sunday)

We kick the weekend off with more diving and snorkeling opportunities throughout the Ribbon Reefs. Today you will have the opportunity to explore some of the most untouched areas of the Great Barrier Reef. We will also take part in an exploration dive. Four dives are included in today's itinerary, including another night dive, when the reef will transform itself into a completely different setting with all new nocturnal marine life just waiting to meet you. This pristine and unique reef system, is an underwater playground teeming with marine life, a real natural wonder for you to explore and enjoy!

Day 4 (Monday)

Explore more of the Great Barrier Reef at various dive sites along the Ribbon Reefs over four incredible dives, including a dive at Steve's Bommie, one of the most pristine dive sites that the Ribbon Reefs have to offer. The reef locations that we visit are home to many tropical fish species and offer magnificent viewing of bright mesmerising coral less frequented by any other boats. On completion of our final night dive we will steam south towards Cairns.

Day 5 (Tuesday)

Wake up to your last morning on OceanQuest. After breakfast, you will be transferred back to your Cairns city accommodation at approximately 07:30. Please note, itinerary may vary slightly depending on weather conditions. During Minke Whale season, the dive schedule may be altered to enable as much in-water interaction with the whales as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you!



NAUTILUS SCUBA CLUB UNDERWATER PHOTO COMPETITION 2016

Time to start sorting your images getting some new ones.

As with previous years the photo competition is open to all Nautilus members and entries will close on 31st May 2016, judging of all images will be by independent non club members who have more than a passing interest in underwater photography.

Results will be announced, all images displayed and the all important club members choice will take place on Wednesday 29th June at the Cairns Colonial Club, (further details to follow).

Categories will be: Macro, Portrait and Wide Angle

These categories will be divided into two groups:

Compact Cameras, (these types of cameras do not have interchangeable lenses but do have external wet lenses available from various housing companies which further enhance their wide angle and macro capabilities).

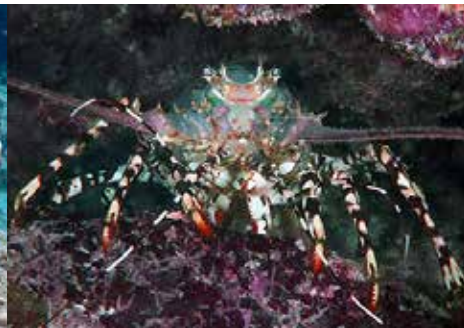
DSLR and Four thirds digital cameras: (these types of cameras have interchangeable lenses).

Entrants can enter 3 images per category, (so a total of 9 images per entrant), and only enter one or the other category. The cost of entry for one or nine images is \$20.00.

The above is just the bare bones to remind the underwater photographers out there to start getting serious about sorting images from the last 18 months.

The rules, (of course there are rules!) ,and entry form have been published and emailed out to members.

Previous photo comp entries for inspiration by:
Eden Gray- Spence
Libby Sterling
Colin Tonazzi
Aaron Smith
Alison Smith
Shey Goddard
Andy Ratter
Ann Coombs
Kevin Coombs
Rick Evans





Deep Cavern Diver Course

Cave Divers Association of Australia Deep Cavern Diver Course

Cave Divers Association of Australia

The reasons for learning to Cave dive are many and varied but whatever your reason for undertaking a cave diving course you will be guaranteed of two things:

- a) Your diving skills and knowledge will be put to the challenge and
- b) You will get to dive in some of the most amazing fresh water sites anywhere in the world.

Places such as Piccaninnie Pond, the Shaft and Kilsby's Sinkhole will all come within your diving reach. Your ticket to these and other cave diving sites rest in a Cave Divers Association of Australia sanctioned Deep Cavern course.

Deep Cavern Course – Dates Wednesday 28th Sept (pm) -Sun 2nd October

This 4 ½ day, full or part time course aims to develop the skills and knowledge for cavern and sinkhole diving, including the planning and organization, the procedures, techniques and problem solving required in a variety of cavern and sinkhole diving situations.

Theory sessions shall cover such topic as CDAA history, buoyancy and anti silting, reel and guideline use and equipment considerations.

Practical sessions shall include 4 training dives in Cavern rated site(s) and 3 supervised site dives.

Pre-requisites.

Before commencement of a CDAA Deep Cavern diver training program the candidate must:

1. Hold an entry level recreational SCUBA diver award for a minimum of 12 months
2. Hold Advanced Open Water certification or have evidence of equivalent dives
3. Have logged at least 25 dives totalling a minimum of 20 hours, including at least 2 night dives and 5 dives deeper than 25m
4. Be a minimum of 18 years of age.
5. Submit a current (issued less than 12 months ago) medical statement signed by a registered medical practitioner stating the candidate is fit to dive.

Equipment

1. Suitable exposure suit
2. Mask and fins
3. Small sharp line cutting device
4. Watch, bottom timer or dive computer

5. Depth gauge with maximum depth indicator or dive computer
6. Twin cylinders*, minimum capacity 2200 litres
7. Buoyancy Control Device (must be in addition to the exposure suit)
8. One primary and two back up lights – minimum duration 60mins.
9. Pencil and underwater slate
10. 2 passport sized photos

*If you have never dived with twins before or do not have a twin cylinder set-up please contact us prior to the course commencing for more information. These can be supplied for you if necessary.

Course costs:

Your course fee of \$995 includes...

- Use of a variety of reels
- All class materials
- CDAA members manual
- Student notes in folder form
- Pool costs – if applicable
- All permit fees to sites
- Joining fee with the CDAA
- Card handling fee with the CDAA
- Membership fee with the CDAA

A deposit of \$250 is necessary to confirm your place on the course.

Please note that whenever possible a welcome and orientation session will commence on the evening before the program formally commences.

For further information please contact
Linda Claridge of Garinda Dive Instruction.

garinda@tpgi.com.au

Ph: 03 5565 8793

Mb: 0408 052 070

Garinda Dive Instruction PO Box 15, Kooit 3282. Victoria

Feature Article



COTS Information

Supplied by Anne Clarke (RRRC) 19 May 2016

The Reef and Rainforest Research Centre (RRRC) is an Australian based not-for-profit organisation.

- **RRRC's purpose:** to bring together and build scientific knowledge to underpin the conservation and sustainable development in Tropical Queensland and beyond.
- **RRC delivers:** innovative science based solutions and services to improve environmental outcomes, increase local and regional wealth and create regional jobs.
- **RRRC partners:** 38 organisations including the Australian and Queensland Governments, regional natural resource management groups, local governments, tourism industry, agricultural groups, fishing industry, conservation organisations and indigenous bodies.

Current Approach to Crown of Thorns Control

- Control (costly) vessels, divers, one shot bile salts (effective but labour intensive)
- Focus (discrete) high value tourism sites, adults (limited area)

New approach (Dave Westcott's (CSIRO) work)

- Strategic surveillance (more eyes in water ie community/industries that dive), early warning through testing plankton for COTS larvae)
- Improvements in control through research – to reduce labour component, to reduce cost and spread control effect

Elements new approach

- Accurate forecasting to pre-empt outbreaks **REQUIRES** climate modelling
- Understanding of spatial and habitat considerations **REQUIRES** better understanding of COTS habitat preferences and movement ability
- Focussed management objectives – control levels: **FOCUS** is not eradication but to keep and improve hard coral cover
- Good data feeding a tailor made decision framework – **REQUIRES** collaboration between all agencies collecting data
- Development of a suite of control methods – **REQUIRES** creative research using terrestrial integrated pest management learnings (attractants, repellents, genetics)
- **Increased surveillance** – **REQUIRED** undertaken both by the Programme and through wider Industry and Community

Community Involvement

When on reef community members can undertake RAPID ASSESSMENT as follows:

- **Swim Techniques** – COTS observations in a 30 minute swim
- **Observation** - >3 COTS in that swim
- **Data collection**- GPS points, number of COTS (sizes, depth if possible)
- **Reporting** - Phone, SMS, Eye on Reef website
- **Swim Techniques** - in a 30 minute swim

COTS biology that lends it to reef destroying outbreaks (Morgan Pratchett's (JCU) work)

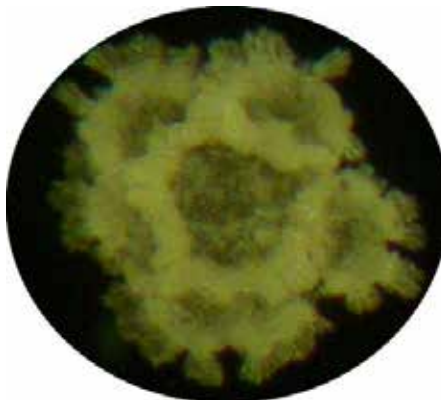
- Highly fecund: A female COTS can produce in 1 spawning up to $1,145\text{g} \times 90,000\text{oocytes.g}^{-1} = 103$ million eggs
- Cryptic (blend in until quite large and fully reproductive)
- Few predators: as juveniles (before toxins develop) fish love to eat. As adults (toxic) specialised predators (puffer fish, triton shell)



Female COTS with eggs. Credit: Photo from Morgan Pratchett JCU 2016



COTS coral feeding swarm. Credit: Photo from Morgan Pratchett JCU 2016



COTS juvenile one week after settlement. Credit: Photo from Morgan Pratchett JCU 2016



Juvenile COTS(6-12 months after settlement). Credit: Photo from Morgan Pratchett JCU 2016



COTS juvenile trap. Credit: Photo from Morgan Pratchett JCU 2016

THINGS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT NEED TO KNOW

A seahorse can move each of its eyes separately. One eye can look forward while the other looks backward. Seahorses can also change their color to match their surroundings.

Most brands of lipstick contain fish scales.

Unlike most other fish, the ocean sunfish does not have a tail. A female sunfish can lay 300 million eggs each year. Each egg is smaller than the period at the end of a sentence.



Supporting the Nautilus Scuba Club



LISSENUNG ISLAND RESORT
Kavieng • Papua New Guinea



DIGITAL DIVER
• take only pictures, leave only bubbles •



DIVERSWORLD

...YOUR EVERYTHING UNDERWATER!



CALYPSO
snorkel and dive

TUSA T6
Dive

PRO DIVE
CAIRNS



PARTING SHOT



Everyone loves a hug