



# Marine Teachers Association of Queensland Inc.

c/- Heatley Secondary College, Townsville  
PO Box 64 Aitkenvale 4814 Telephone: 07 4726 8333 Fax 07 4726 8300

# SALTWATER

www.marineteachers.org.au



Newsletter No 61

MAY 2004

## SHARK BAY NIGHT



### GOLD COAST BRANCH NEWS

**MTAQ GOLD COAST VISIT TO SHARK BAY: APRIL 23, 2004.**

On the first Friday back at work after the Easter break, some 40 associates of MTAQ paid an after hours visit to Sea World's latest attraction: Shark Bay.

Members and their guests were treated to a private, guided tour courtesy of Leanna from the Education section of Sea World. AJ was there, hobbling along on crutches, the new Stu Russell was there minus his trademark pony tail, as were lots of other MTAQ people both 'old timers' and new.

After a wander around the touch pool and the above deck area of the snorkel 'reef' pool, complete with rays, small reef sharks and "old man" groper, the team was led to the below water viewing windows, to be introduced to the stars of the show: the tigers and whalers in the main display pool.

It's great to get such a close up view of these beautiful creatures, cruising around establishing their dominance and place in the pecking order. It's interesting that the 'fearsome' tigers have been forced to the top of the pool to endure sunburnt dorsal fins, while the whalers control the world of mid water and below!

Courtesy of Robert and the Sea World Education Team, those members who expressed an interest in the more intimate 'snorkel experience' were given a small questionnaire to complete and return, in order to receive a complimentary entry and snorkel at Shark Bay. Sea World is trying to gauge the feasibility of offering the snorkel experience to school groups. What do you think? The current rate for school groups is \$29 entry with an *additional* \$50 for the snorkel. If you would like to have some input into this program, complete page 5 survey form for the **FREE OFFER** of a **Complimentary snorkel in SHARK BAY**.

**This offer closes 30 June..... FAXBACK To Sea World**

Following our tour, the group withdrew to the local yacht club for some friendly chat and a quiet drink, as the lights of the marina played on an undisturbed bay ..... 'twas lovely!

Thanks to MTAQ for their sponsorship of this regional event. We look forward to our next gathering, which will be the Marine Olympics, Safety & Training Day, currently being worked on by the teachers of Southport SHS and Benowa SHS.



## VANUATU FIELD TRIP UPDATE

### DATES AND FLIGHTS

Tuesday September 21st to Monday 27th September 2004

Depart 1930 Brisbane International Airport, Tuesday September 21st

Arrive 2310 Port Vila. Tuesday September 21st

Depart 1620 Port Vila Monday 27th September 2004

Arrive 1830 Brisbane International Airport Mon 27th September 2004

### HOW TO BOOK

Fill out forms over and post back with a cheque/money order made out to

**Resort 2 Diving**

Sheree Bell

Sunshine Beach High School

Ben Lexcen Drive

Sunshine Beach 4567

Telephone: 07 5440 4222

sbell84@eq.edu.au

### CLOSING DATE

May 30th

The trip will be cancelled if we do not get a minimum of 12 by the closing date. Should this occur, your cheque will be returned to you.

**10 YEARS OLD ...  
SEE PAGE 4**



On Thursday 4th August 1994, at 4.30 pm, at Camp Minjerribah on South Stradbroke Island in Queensland a group of approximately 45 assembled teachers agreed to form an association where Marine Education teachers as well as Marine Studies Teachers could join. The name of the association agreed to by those assembled was to be the Marine Teachers Association of Queensland.

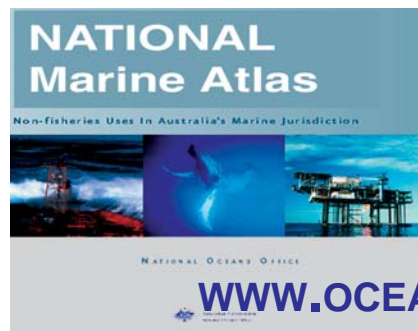
**CLOSING DATE  
30 MAY  
EMAIL SHEREE  
NOW**

# NEW NATIONAL MARINE ATLAS

AVAILABLE TO MTAQ MEMBERS ON CD

A new atlas of activity in Australia's marine territory sponsored by the Australian Government provides for the first time a snapshot of the diverse uses of the ocean. The *National Marine Atlas* will help Australians understand the value of their ocean territory, which is the largest of any nation on earth.

It is available in hard copy, on the National Oceans Office website ([www.oceans.gov.au](http://www.oceans.gov.au)) and in CD form.



[WWW.OCEANS.GOV.AU](http://WWW.OCEANS.GOV.AU)

## MOBILE MARINE UNIT IDEA

With the Senior Marine Studies Trial Pilot finishing in 2004 I have had a number of enquiries (ie St Pats, Shorncliffe and Toowoomba SHS) from schools wishing to take up Marine Studies in 2005. They have extremely keen and excited teachers at these schools but there is a problem. The enquiries centre around coxswains qualifications, instructor qualifications and commercial vessels. Also some new teachers are having trouble with the above and some schools are not allowed to spend money on such "nonsense" and can only spend money on computers.

The problem being that to get a coxswains ticket you need 91 days commercial seetime - almost an impossibility for the schools mentioned above. As well there is the stumbling block of instructor qualifications which take at least 12 months for a snorkel instructor (AUF), first aid instructor (St Johns) and power boat instructor (QX), which I believe is the minimum if you wish to run a viable Marine Studies program - as well as the monetary costs. Once again a very big ask for the above schools. Finally the monetary hurdle of a commercial power boat. (I feel outside providers are too expensive a burden for a school.)

My fairy tale solution to this problem - which will affect the future of Marine Studies in this state - is to have a Mobile Marine Unit. That is, a teacher (perhaps two) with all the qualifications mentioned above in a four wheel drive towing a tinnie in "2E" survey. This teacher teaches in his/her normal school but at certain times of the year is seconded out of the school to operate the Mobile Marine Unit. Meanwhile the Marine teachers at St Pats and Toowoomba are teaching the Marine program, however, in February they make a booking for the Mobile Marine Unit, say for a week in May or June. During this week the Mobile Marine Unit travels to this school. The teacher has already covered the theory throughout the semester and the Mobile Unit does practical testing/assessment with the students for snorkel skills/first aid certificate/power boat licence etc. This unit would also be available for Field Studies. It would be used to get the subject going at a new school and help the teacher while he/she trained up to the required standards. It would also be professional development for the teacher for they would be picking up assessment skills from the Mobile Unit.

Hence some funding could come from the professional development budgets of schools that used the unit, I would imagine other funding could come from private enterprise (eg Maritime Transport, Brisbane Boat Show) and also Ed. Queensland which supports Environmental Education Centres could also fund this mobile version of an education centre.

I would envisage 2 Mobile Marine Units working the state, one covering Coolangatta to Rockhampton - the other covering Cooktown to Mackay. We already have Environmental Education Centres scattered throughout the state - we need to be proactive and actively seek a solution to this problem which will emerge in 2005.

This problem - and others are on our website in the Forum section for members. I urge you to get your password and check out Forum and make a contribution for the good of Marine Studies throughout the state.

Lloyd Jones (Southern Cross College - Scarborough)

### VACANCY HOLY SPIRIT COLLEGE - MACKAY

As most of you are aware Simone Baker is heading overseas for 6 months from the 23rd June 2004. Holy Spirit College - Mackay is advertising for a contract for term 3 & 4. Two year 10 marine studies classes as well as one year 11 & one year 12 marine studies class. Other science / maths areas will be filled due to another teaching moving away. For further details contact Fran Limmagine 07 49 422088 Principal of Curriculum HSC.

### QUEENSLAND STUDY AUTHORITY SYLLABUS UPDATE - TRAINING; CALOUNDRA 6/5/04

Mary Rafter (QSA education officer - Marine Studies) conducted an informative professional development session for 16 teachers from all school sectors within the Brisbane and Sunshine Coast areas.

Following on from an update of the trial syllabus, participants workshopped ideas about work program overviews, sample unit plans, assessment criteria and student profiling outcomes.

Important issues were clarified, plan components were shared and progress towards finalised work programs was mapped. MTAQ members appreciated the assistance QSA provided in the planning and programming processes of each school.

We thank Mary for her friendly professionalism extended throughout this six hour conference.

Peter Slaughter

Brisbane North MTAQ representative.

### EXCURSION INFORMATION S/E QUEENSLAND

#### CAMPING AT MORETON ISLAND

Simone please advertise this info as we had a relaxing time being catered for and with tents, beds, etc provided it took some of the effort out of a marine camp. regards Jim, Coops and Steve .....

Norm and Sandra McLay, Moreton island Educational and Recreational Camps.

Costs

Mon-Wed \$115 pp Mon - Thursday \$155 pp Mon - Friday \$170pp includes barge fare from Scarborough return, brekkie, lunch and dinner, 4WD's and drivers, large tents with camp stretchers, showers, flushing toilets and all within 100m of the beach at Bulwer.

Further information: Jim Kneale or Mark Cooper - Noosa High School.

#### MURPHY STAR CHARTERS

Peter Holt wants to let us know that bookings are now being taken for school diving, snorkelling or Ecotourism charters in Moreton Bay. His details are below - thanks for your newsletter sponsorship Peter



**Murphy Star Charters**  
School diving, snorkelling  
and marine ecotourism  
Peter Holt • Ph: 07 3206 4490 • Mob: 015 673 286

# CONFERENCE UPDATE

## Noosa September Conference

TUES 21- MON 27 SEPTEMBER

Vanuatu Field Trip - Details below

MONDAY 27 - 28 - SEPTEMBER

SCUBA Dive, Level 1 Snorkel Course, YQ Power boat instructors course, deep sea fishing charter

WEDNESDAY - 29 SEPTEMBER

MTAQ Junior Marine Studies Syllabus launch and workshop

WEDNESDAY - 29 SEPTEMBER

Official opening, Keynote Address, AGM and curriculum exchange web page presentation

THURSDAY - 30 SEPTEMBER

Workshops and field trips

FRIDAY - 1 OCTOBER

Workshops, field trips and conference dinner

### FURTHER DETAILS

[www.marineteachers.org.au](http://www.marineteachers.org.au)

### MESA AND AMC INVITE

The mesa conference committee invites all MTAQ members to the keynote address and a complimentary cup of coffee and cake to hear the latest Australian Maritime College initiatives for our marine students on the Saturday morning after the conference. If you want to stay for the rest of the day you have to register for the MESA conference - [www.mesa.edu.au](http://www.mesa.edu.au).



### WEB PAGE NEWS

#### SENIOR CURRICULUM EXCHANGE LAUNCHED

Boating, navigation and personal water skills all now have 2-3 files - Thanks Lloyd and Mick.

#### FORUMS

Lloyd is now in charge of the forums and will delete old stuff.

#### BRANCH REPS

All reps now can see your emails, addresses for correspondence and can tell you if you are financial or not - hoping this will help.

#### CONFERENCE CONVENOR

Jim can now see all financial details and all addresses to process registrations. He then sends all your cheques to Tina who does the financial management.

### MORETON ISLAND SCHOOL SNORKELLING TRIP

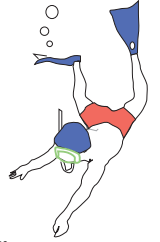


Mark Cooper Noosa SHS  
Lloyd Jones Southern Cross College  
Nice Mackay Conference shirts

Yes the two handsome gentlemen attached to this boat have just had a dry and comfortable drive across to Moreton Island where they taught some snorkelling skills to 60 enthusiastic year 8 students who have sworn that they want to do Marine Studies when they grow up - after all this is why we teach marine studies.

# JUNIOR MARINE STUDIES NEWS

## Mackay May Workshop



### DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Trial school evaluation reports with names of trial teachers, numbers of students, workbook outlines, comments on outcomes and ability to translate to reports.
2. Program for October MTAQ syllabus workshop for new schools
3. Clarification of copyright issues for MTAQ executive
4. Recommendation by committee for MTAQ executive to submit to QSA
5. New program leader/s

### THANK YOU

- A really big thanks to Terri Burnett from Education Queensland for helping us with over \$4000 from the Federal Government Quality Teaching Program as well a further \$1000 for our conference and \$3000 for the accreditation process with QSA.

### THURSDAY 27TH MAY

- 10.00 Coffee and catch-up Mercy College
- 10.30 Draft workprogram presentations:
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 Continued presentation of school workprograms
- 3.30 Current state of the syllabus, what we have to do to get it ready for submission to QSA
- 4.30 Afternoon tea or dinner with MTAQ executive
  - Formal acceptance of copyright from MTAQ subcommittee.
  - Discussion of proposed letters of agreement from sub-committee members releasing copyright to MTAQ
  - Information session on contracts to be prepared by Education Queensland for licence to use MTAQ syllabus

### FRIDAY 28TH MAY

- 9.00 How outcomes are being evaluated
- 10.30 Morning tea
- 11.00 Continued discussion on outcomes evaluation and how MTAQ will moderate standards
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 Delegation of duties to modify outcomes so that a plan for evaluation can be devised to show new members how to use syllabus
- 3.30 Plenary Session
- 5.00 Drinks and dinner

### SATURDAY 29 MAY

- 9.00 Final planning for Noosa conference, Submission to QSA, Curriculum exchange documentation, Election of new CME Syllabus Chairperson
- 10.30 Morning tea
- 11.00 Action planning
- 1.00 Close

### INFORMATION

Bob Moffatt  
PO Box 540  
Coolangatta 4225  
Telephone: (07) 5525 6122



Australian Government  
Quality Teacher Programme



# WE ARE 10 YEARS OLD - 4TH AUGUST 1994

## FROM OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 1994.....

On Thursday 4th August 1994, at 4.30 pm, at Camp Minjerribah on South Stradbroke Island in Queensland a group of approximately 45 assembled teachers agreed to form an association where Marine Education teachers as well as Marine Studies Teachers could join.

The name of the association agreed to by those assembled was to be the Marine Teachers Association of Queensland.

Association progress so far .....

In September draft copies of a constitution were sent to all members of an interim council. Our Vice President has written to the Director General who has informed Regional Officers of our existence.

While at the Maritime Teachers Consortium meeting at AMC in Launceston, informal discussion were held between ten Marine Studies Teachers and a draft of the constitution was briefly discussed.

An interim council consisting of representatives of the assembled group was elected as follows:

South Coast (Incl. Brisbane) - Mark Rickard, North Coast - Geoff Waterhouse, Gary James, Peter Travis. Central region - Peter Slaughter, Denise Wright, Ross Gibbons, Don Reid. Mackay and district - Tina Derry, Peter Hamlyn. Cairns Region - Geoff Jensen, Ken Maclean.

### ELECTED OFFICERS

The interim executive is Ken Maclean (Babinda High - President), Geoff Jensen (Innisfail SHS Vice President), Jan Thornton (Sea World Secretary), Bob Moffatt (Wet Paper Publications, Publicity Officer)

### FIRST EXECUTIVE MEETING

This was held on 31 October and it was decided to send this newsletter out, write to consumer affairs to get comment of the first draft and send the first draft to regional reps.



Marine Teachers Association of Queensland  
14 Millberg Terrace Ashmore 4214, Phone (075) 972 806, Fax (075) 39 4187

## Newsletter Summer 1994

### HISTORY OF ASSOCIATION

On Thursday 4th August 1994, at 4.30 pm, at Camp Minjerribah on South Stradbroke Island in Queensland a group of approximately 45 assembled teachers agreed to form an association where Marine Education teachers as well as Marine Studies Teachers could join.



**ASSOCIATION DRAFT FOR 1994**  
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**PROPOSED CONFERENCE JULY 1-3 1995**  
Our executive has decided to invite all

members and anyone who has a passion for constitutions in early December and processed by end of school.

A second draft will be prepared over the Christmas break and then be available for comment till March 30 next year.

Once again the comments will be circulated to the constitution committee and a third draft prepared and sent to all those who want to come to our conference in July.

**INTERIM COUNCIL APPOINTED:**  
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**PROPOSED CONFERENCE JULY 1-3 1995**  
Our executive has decided to invite all

marine teachers to our first ever conference in central Queensland on the weekend preceding and including the first student free day in Semester two. Rockhampton Grammar School and North Kippel Island Environmental Education Centre have generously invited us and a proposed program is set out below.

### PROPOSED PROGRAM

**Friday 20 June**  
5.00pm Registration and cocktail party  
6.30pm Dinner

**Saturday 1 July**  
9.00 Welcome and opening  
9.30 Professional Sessions  
10.30 Morning tea  
11.00 Professional Sessions  
12.30 Lunch  
1.30 Bus to Pappanong and boat to North Kippel Island  
2.30 Afternoon tea  
4.00 Exploring the island and Reef  
6.00 Island night and networking

**Sunday 2 July**  
9.00 Reef experience identification and interpretation  
10.30 Morning tea  
11.00 Boat organisation, activities and conservation in excursions  
12.30 Lunch  
1.30 Pack and return to Rockhampton Grammar  
4.00 Smoking cessation (in pool)  
6.00 Dinner

**Monday 3 July (Breaker Fee Day)**  
9.00 Department of Education session  
10.00 Board of Secondary School Studies session  
11.00 Department of Transport session  
12.00 Competitions session and primary  
1.00 Annual General Meeting  
2.00 Depart

### PROPOSED SPONSORS FOR 1995

Do you have any contacts or ideas for organisations you may wish to help us get started?



**NEXT YEAR WHEN WE GET MORE FUNDS, I WOULD LIKE TO SET UP AN ARCHIVE SYSTEM OF ALL OUR NEWSLETTERS FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO FOLLOW MARINE STUDIES HISTORY. NOTICE YOUR BRISBANE NORTH REP HAS MOVED FROM CENTRAL QUEENSLAND**

### PRESIDENT

Lloyd Jones  
Southern Cross College  
07 3880 0833



### VICE PRESIDENT AND TOWNSVILLE REP

Ward Nicholas  
Heatley Secondary College  
07 4726 8333



### SECRETARY

Kathy Steggle  
Whitsunday Anglican School  
07 4969 2003



### TREASURER & OFFICE

Tina Kay  
Heatley Secondary College  
07 4726 8333



### CONF CONVENORS

Jim Kneale and Mark Cooper  
Noosa SHS  
07 5447 6622



### PUBLICITY OFFICER

Simone Baker  
Holy Spirit College  
07 4942 2088



### NEWSLETTER

Bob Moffatt  
Wet Paper Publications  
07 5525 6122



### CAIRNS AND FAR NORTH QLD

David Beasley  
Cooktown State High School  
07 4082 0222



### MACKAY

Bill Rankine  
Mackay SHS  
07 4957 9179



### ROCKHAMPTON AND DISTRICT

Rebecca Ballinger  
Rockhampton Grammar  
07 4936 0600



### WIDE BAY

Greg Lynch  
Frazer Coast AGS  
07 4124 5411



### SUNSHINE COAST

Sheree Bell  
Sunshine Beach SHS  
07 5440 4222



### BRISBANE NORTH

Peter Slaughter  
Southern Cross College  
07 3880 0833



### BRISBANE SOUTH

Annette Window  
Victoria Point SHS  
07 3207 8678



### GOLD COAST

Mike Halpin  
The Southport School  
07 5531 9911



Sea World  
PO Box 190  
Surfers Paradise 4217  
Tel: 07 5588 2222  
Fax: 07 55911056



7 May 2004

Dear Marine Teacher of Queensland

## COMPLIMENTARY SNORKEL AT SHARK BAY

Sea World Marine Education is offering MTAQ – members a complimentary snorkel at Shark Bay. To receive your FREE SNORKEL and to gauge the feasibility of a snorkel program for school groups, please take the time to complete this brief questionnaire and return in the attached prepaid envelope.

1. Would you be interested booking a Snorkel at Shark Bay Animal Adventure for your students while on a school excursion to Sea World? **Y / N**
2. Currently Snorkel tours at Shark Bay are restricted to a maximum of 12 participants; would you be able to work with this i.e. two programs of 12 students? **Y / N**
3. Cost of the Snorkel (currently \$50.00\*) is additional to school group entry (currently \$29.00\* per high school student). Payment for the Snorkel needs to be prepaid and is non-refundable, as per all Animal Adventures; do you see your school being able to work with this policy? **Y / N**

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Name: MTAQ Membership No.

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School:

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School Address:

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Contact Phone Number/s:

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Please return this letter (complete with your details) so we can forward your free entry to Sea World and the details needed to claim your free Snorkel.

Kind regards

Robert Landman  
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

*\* rates subject to change.*