

New Patron for MBBT Turning the Tide Project

We are very excited to announce that Professor Iain McCalman has joined the MBBT's [Turning the Tide](#) project. He brings wonderful skills as a social, cultural and environmental historian of the Great Barrier Reef, a biological storyteller and a digital commentator and writer. This exciting partnership was cemented after his recent visit to Mission Beach. The palpable energy and enthusiasm that drives the unique local collaboration of sustainable businesses and far-sighted conservationists attracted him to the 'Turning the Tide' project.

His last book, *Darwin's Armada* (Penguin, 2009) won three prizes and was the basis of the TV series, *Darwin's Brave New World*. He is a Fellow of three Learned Academies and is a former President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He was Director of the Humanities Research Centre, ANU, from 1995-2002 and won the inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Prize at ANU for Teaching Excellence.

He is a former Federation Fellow and currently a Research Professor in history at the University of Sydney and co-Director of the Sydney Environmental Institute.

His new book, *The Reef – A Passionate History, from Captain Cook to Climate Change*, published by Penguin is now available in Australia. He was made Officer of the Order of Australia in 2007 for services to history and the humanities.

Mission Beach is one of the very significant parts of the Tropical North Region which has an historical place in people's understanding, internationally and domestically. The loss of iconic product such as the Dunk Island Resort due to 2 major cyclonic impacts in quick succession, has required MBBT to rebuild our tourism plant and substantial efforts are being made to restore our status to pre TC Yasi.

Iain McCalman's new book 'The Reef – A Passionate History', will soon be available for purchase at the Mission Beach Visitor Centre and online on our website

www.missionbeachtourism.com.

For more information about Turning the Tide go to;

www.turningthetide.com.au

or for Iain McCalman;

www.the-reef.com.au

Discussion continues on safe boating facility

Federal Member for Kennedy, Bob Katter met with Mission Beach Stakeholders to discuss the proposed safe boating facility for Mission Beach. The proposal has now been 'referred to GBRMPA' he said and 'due for completion before the end of 2014.' MBBT explained that the lack of a diving facility has a negative impact on our economy with many people choosing not to stay here because of this. The longer we are without a safe boating facility the greater the risk of losing our reputation as an important access point to the GBR in Tropical North Qld. Twenty infrastructure concepts, have been evaluated and two options have been identified for further development and assessment.

<http://goo.gl/VmjD6U>



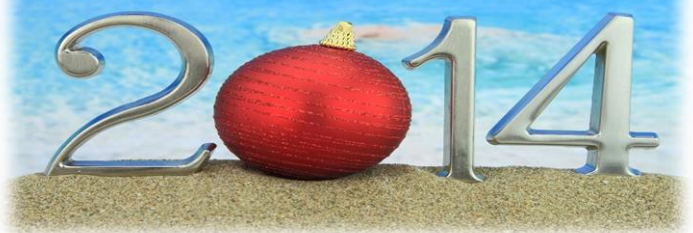
Katter Klaus & Krew

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Season's greetings & a healthy, prosperous 2014



Winners are Grinners

Volunteers Win Award

MBBT Volunteers for the Mission Beach at the Mission Beach Visitor Information Centre were happy recipients of another TTNQ award this year this time for Outstanding Contribution by a volunteer or volunteer group for the Tropical Fruit Safari. Our hardworking team vigorously promote and present this vibrant food adventure with their exotic fruit presentations and tastings. They also picked up a Bronze Award in the Tourism and Events Queensland State Awards in the same category.

TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND
TOURISM AWARDS
Adventurous by nature
 2013 WINNER

Winning Members

Tropical North Queensland was the highest-awarded destination in the State after picking up many of the State Awards. A huge congratulations to our members who won both State and Regional Awards;

- Jungle Surfing Canopy Tours
- Kuranda Scenic Railway
- Paronella Park
- Ingan Tours
- Quicksilver Group
- Passions of Paradise
- Cairns Tropical Zoo
- Pro Dive Cairns
- Villa Marine Holiday Apartments
- Skybury Coffee



The Winning Team from MBBT

Volunteers Christmas Party at Mena Creek Hotel

A great deal of fun and frivolity was had at the MBBT volunteers Christmas Party held this year at the Mena Creek Hotel.

The black and white theme was a perfect accompaniment for the tropical backdrop at the old Queensland Hotel.



Perfect tropical backdrop

The Xmas get together included an hilarious performance by the Black and White Minstrels and we'll soon have a video on Youtube for everyone to enjoy the fun. The unbelievably talented Vivien from Same Same But Different created the fantastic costumes as a Xmas thank you gift to the volunteers. Thanks to the good sports who performed, our patient & talented choreographer, our unbelievably hilarious Santa plus Ray & Barb's awesome uke playing. Half the group were chauffeured to Mena Creek and back by the stretch Hummer so the fun component was from start to finish. The hotel, recently purchased by Mark and Judy Evans of Paronella Park, is already a winner not just with visitors but with locals as well.

The kitchen which is open 7 days a week every day from midday until 8pm features freshly cooked, classic pub favourites such as chicken parmigiana, rump steak and fish and chips. All the food is fresh and handmade, (nothing frozen) and great value for money.

A huge thank you to our members who were able to donate wonderful prizes for the volunteers again this year, we all appreciate it so much.

Thanks to - Absolute Backpackers, Anderson's Real Estate, Atherton Halloran's Leisure Park, Australia Skydive, Beachcombers Coconut Caravan Village, Big Cat Green Island Cruises, Big Mama Sailing, Cairns Tropical Zoo, Castaways Resort & Spa, Coffee Works, Cruise Whitsundays, Down Under Cruise & Dive, Eva Books, Harle's Electrical, Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, Hummers and Harleys, Ibu & Bean, Kuranda Koala Gardens, Kuranda Scenic Railway, Licuala Lodge, Lookin' Good Beauty & Hair, Massage @ Mission, Massage by Lucy, Mission Fitness, Mission Beach Dunk Island Water Taxi, Mission Beach Interiors, Mission Beach News, Mission Beach Pharmacy, Mission Beach Resort, Mission Reef Resort, Murdering Point Winery, On the Wallaby, Onna Mission Holiday Apartments, Paronella Park, Raging Thunder, Reef HQ, Same Same but Different, Skyrail, Spicy Thai, Studio 8 Glass, Sunlover Reef Cruises, Taihoa Holiday Units, Unique Frames, Viv's Beauty Room, Wet Hairdressing, Whitsunday Sailing Adventures, Yoko @ Mission and Zephyr Coast.



Don't Give Up Your Day Job!