

4TH Australian Marine Turtle Symposium

BUNDABERG

SOUTHERN GREAT BARRIER REEF QUEENSLAND

SEPTEMBER 8TH – 10TH 2018

Convenor:

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AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

We're in the final stages of preparation for our Symposium and want to ensure that everyone has all the information needed for a successful and enjoyable event. We will be relying on you to read the emailed and online information so that we can reduce the need for hard copies where possible in consideration of both cost and the environment.

1. **REGISTRATION:** As we now have many more registrations than predicted we would like to distribute the registration packs (including your ticket ID) to as many as possible before the Saturday morning start. We will be at the MULTIPLEX venue on Friday between 2 pm and 4 pm and at RIVERFEAST for the MEET & GREET from 5 pm. Registration packs can be collected at either venue. MULTIPLEX 1 Civic Avenue Bundaberg (enter from Walker or Burrum Streets); RIVERFEAST 1A Scotland Street.

2. **SYMPOSIUM TIMES AT A GLANCE:**

FRIDAY	2.00 pm – 4.00 Ppm	Collect Registrations Bags from MULTIPLEX
	5.00 PM -	MEET & GREET AT RIVERFEAST, Collect Registration Bags here as well
SATURDAY	8.00 AM	Collect Registrations Bags from MULTIPLEX
	8.30 am	OPENING and housekeeping
	5.30 pm	Closing of Day 1
SUNDAY	8.30 AM – 5. 30	Also close of Silent Auction
Monday	8.30 am - 4.00	

A complete programme will be issued separately when finalised.

3. **TRANSPORT:** Some indicated on their registration form that assistance with transport was required but as many were undecided at time of registering we now require you to confirm what assistance is required. Email ausmarineturtlesymposium@outlook.com
Please advise as quickly as possible what assistance is required e.g.: -
 - a. Pick up from airport to accommodation – date and time and flight details
 - b. transport to and from Meet & Greet – accommodation venue
 - c. transport to and from accommodation to Symposium daily – accommodation venue
 - d. return to airport flight details date, time; leaving from where

“An environment good for Turtles is good for us”

4. **CAMPING:** If you are taking advantage of the FREE CAMPING offer, details of your campground will be sent separately to you. We have been informed that some delegates have already been in touch with the caravan park to make bookings. If so you will need to contact us immediately at ausmarineturtlesymposium@outlook.com to be included in the free camping list or you will be charged camping fees by the caravan park. The Symposium will be paying the camping fees for only those on the list we supply to the Caravan Park. If you do not receive a camping confirmation email by the 24th August contact us immediately.
5. **MEET & GREET:** Bundaberg has a unique venue right in town on the river where we can socialise before the Symposium begins. Entry is free and a great selection of food and drink is available at your own expense. "RiverFeast is the newest and most unique culinary experience Bundaberg has to offer. Friday nights come alive on the Burnett River with the transformation of Bundaberg's old Marine College facility into an enticing array of international street food and a selection of quality retail stalls to wander through. Come along and enjoy craft beers, ciders and wines from local and Australian breweries." We hope to see you there from 5 pm Friday 7th September. <http://riverfeast.com.au/>
6. **PRESENTATIONS:** If you have applied to give a presentation the programmers will have been in touch with you already and will provide all the details you will need.
7. **PLASTIC FREE.** We are endeavouring to keep the Symposium plastic free where possible. There will be no plastic water bottles. Water and refreshments will be available in glasses and china cups that will be washed and reused. We request that you be responsible for those containers and reuse as much as possible each session and return them to the serving or collection areas to make it easier for our volunteers. ID/entry tickets will be personalised card holders on lanyards. It was felt that a plastic holder was the best alternative and we intend to reuse these for future symposia. We ask that you return your lanyard and card holder before you leave this symposium.
8. **REEF TOGETHER:** The Southern Great Barrier Reef Regional Schools Convention in support of the 2018 International Year of The Reef, showcasing the power of today's youth. This will be held in an adjoining part of the Multiplex on Monday 10th September and we are invited to interact during our breaks and at the completion of proceedings on this day.
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gkqknq8dq0t42fz/150046%20REEF%20TOGETHER%20-%20Poster%202018.pdf?dl=0>
9. **SILENT AUCTION.** The organising committee of the 4th Australian Marine Turtle Symposium will be running a Silent Auction at the Bundaberg meeting. Proceeds from the auction will be used to help fund the 2020 Australian Symposium

What do we need you to do before coming to Bundaberg? All Symposium attendees are asked to bring items to donate to the Auction. Anything that is turtle or marine themed is usually popular, as are items related to the conference location. Some examples of past auction items are shown in the image (note dog is not included) and can include new, handmade or second hand goods. For example there are items that have been auctioned at the International Sea Turtle Symposium numerous times across many countries over the past 20 years. Auction items can range from a single 50c pencil to artwork worth \$100s or satellite transmitters valued in the \$1000's, it is up to you. Our "Leatherback" Sponsors, LOTEK/SIRTRACK have already donated 1 xKiWiSat Argos Transmitter and 1 x FastGPS Logger or FastGPS Argos Transmitter.

How does the auction work? When you arrive at the Symposium you will be asked by the Auction crew to fill in a Silent Auction bidding sheet with a brief background to the item. The item will then be displayed with the bidding sheets for people to write their bids onto for 2 days. The auction will close prior to the end of the conference when winning bidders will pay for and collect their items.

So bring your items to donate and bring your wallet so you can do a bit of early Christmas shopping!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to assist with the Silent auction please contact Kellie Pendoley (kellie.pendoley@penv.com.au)



- 10. TURTLE ODYSSEY:** This film is 42 minutes long and narrated by Russell Crowe. This viewing will be the first preview in Australia and will be shown during our lunch break on the big screen in the adjoining venue where the REEF TOGETHER function is being held. (Monday at 12.30)

Official synopsis:

Sea Turtles are some of Earth's most ancient and majestic creatures. For over 100 million years, they have traversed the seas, surviving multiple mass extinctions and playing critical roles in maintaining healthy, marine food webs. Not only do these friendly animals captivate us as they peacefully glide through the ocean, but their personal journeys of survival are equally fascinating.

These remarkable reptiles will traverse thousands of kilometres of open ocean for as long as 50 years and then, from half a world away, migrate, with mysterious precision, back to the very beach where they were born – to lay eggs that are the foundation of the next generation.

With the turtles guiding us, our crews voyaged the same thousands of kilometres to capture the wonders of their habitats. Encountering many kinds of strange and compelling creatures from enormous breaching whales to the coral wonderland of the Great Barrier Reef. Sea turtles remind us just how interconnected we all are in this amazing world and audiences will be moved to cherish them even more.

Turtle Odyssey will fit into curriculums worldwide and all materials will meet Next Generation Science Standards.

- 11. SALUTE OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS:** Thanks to our sponsors we have been able to provide transport, accommodation and meals to 15 delegates from indigenous programmes in Western Australia, The Northern Territory, North Queensland, the Torres Strait and Thursday Island.

SPONSORS

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