

Yasi no reef match

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AGINCOURT and Opal Reefs have officially survived Cyclone Yasi.

Although local operators and divers have given the thumbs up to the reef following last month's monster storm, last weekend was the first time the official reef survey organisation ReefCheck had been able to survey the damage.

There wasn't much damage to see, ReefCheck's acting managing director Pete Faulkner said.

"There were a few plate corals knocked over," he said. "But to be honest, at this time of year, during the storm season, you expect to see some damage."

The ReefCheck team spent Saturday checking three sites on Opal Reef, with two more on Agincourt Reef assessed on Sunday. The surveys mark the start of the 2011 survey season, about two months later than usual.

"It's the first time I've been to the Quicksilver pontoon in several years, and it's looking pretty good," Mr Faulkner said.

"The reef looks in very good shape."

ReefCheck has been surveying reefs across the entire Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for a decade.

"Over the last 10 years, most sites haven't seen large-scale deterioration," Mr Faulkner said.

"Some sites have seen an increase in coral cover and at others it has declined, but overall the reef is pretty healthy."

"The main threats to the reef are in fact the chronic threats of bleaching and ocean acidification, rather than the acute threats of cyclone damage."

"We've been fairly lucky in that we've avoided major bleaching lately, and it's very difficult to point to damage in the short term from acidification."

"We know the pH of the ocean is changing, and we know it is making it harder for corals to secrete calcium carbonate, but it is impossible to point to any particular impact."

"It may take 50 years before you can point to a clear trend."

"Our data would indicate that the Great Barrier Reef will certainly still be around in 20 years' time."

Mr Faulkner thanked local operators for their support.

What cyclone:
Agincourt Reef suffered little damage

Photo COURTESY OF POSEIDON



Welcome back: Grind coffee shop owner Andy Viola with snake handler Cameron Graham

Snake stops daily Grind

ANDY Viola found an unusual customer waiting for him when he went to open the Grind coffee shop on Wednesday.

A 2.5m scrub python was lying in the driveway of his Macrossan St building.

"I had a couple of female staff members in the car, and they both screamed," Mr Viola said.

Mr Viola grabbed the snake and deposited it in a rubbish bin out the back while he called the Port Douglas Wildlife Habitat.

By the time the Habitat's crack python-wrestling team arrived, the snake had regurgitated four lorikeets.

Habitat wildlife team leader Cameron Graham said scrub pythons were pretty common at this time of year, even in the centre of Port Douglas.

"You get a lot of lorikeets in Port Douglas, so you get a lot of pythons," he said.

Mr Graham said scrub pythons, while generally harmless, could deliver a nasty bite to the unwary.

"If you don't know what to do, give us a call," he said.

MOSSMAN MULTI PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICE

Mossman Hospital

April 2011

Clinics & activities run by or in partnership with the Mossman Multi Purpose Health Service

clinics and specialist services

information...

Please note that you can source the QLD Health Events Calendar 2011 at: events@health.qld.gov.au

Baby Clinic:
Mossman Multi Purpose Health Service
Ph for appointment 4084 1200
Monday April 4, 11, 18
Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre
Ph for appointment 4084 1200
Thursday April 7, 14, 21, 28
Fracture:
Thursday April 7, 14, 21, 28
Gastrological:
Wednesday April 27
Antenatal:
Tuesday - April 5, 12, 19
Chest Clinic:
Monday April 18

Cardiac Rehabilitation:
Wednesday April 6, 13, 20, 27
ATODs:
Available for individuals, families and community promotions.
Ph for appointment 4084 1233 or 4084 1235
Needle Syringe Program (NSP):
Mon-Fri @ Comm Health 0830-1630
A/h @ Emerg Dept 1630-2030
Sat/Sun/Ph's @ ED 0830-2030
Healthy Bladder:
Thursday April 28

- Mental Health PH: 4084 1232
- Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATODS) PH: 4084 1233
- Home and Community Care (HACC) Services PH: 4084 1271
- Day Respite and Dementia Respite PH: 4084 1273
- Cardiac Rehabilitation/and Prevention Program: an eight-week, tailored and monitored exercise program, followed by an information session, for people with risk factors for cardiovascular events. Wednesdays, DSMPHS.
- Clinics requiring appointment only include: women's health, healthy bladder, high risk foot clinic, indigenous growth assessment and action, antenatal classes and baby clinics, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATODs)
- Clinics requiring referral for appointment include: surgical, gastrological, paediatric and fracture clinics, cardiac rehabilitation and prevention program, gynae (FROGS)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH SERVICES AND CLINIC APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CALL 4084 1200
MOSSMAN MULTI PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICE, HOSPITAL STREET, MOSSMAN



Queensland
Government

Mossman-Daintree Road
Between Rocky Point and Wonga Beach Road
SPEED LIMIT NOW 80KM/H



The Department of Transport and Main Roads wishes to advise motorists of a permanent change to the speed limit in both directions on Mossman-Daintree Road between Rocky Point and Wonga Beach Road.

As of **Thursday 31 March, 2011** the 80km/h speed limit is enforceable.

Reducing the speed limit from 100 km/h to 80 km/h on this section of the road is aimed at improving safety and reducing the number of speed-related crashes.

For more information please call the Communications Officer on 4040 6358.

For up to date information about roadworks and road closures, call 13 19 40 or visit 131940.qld.gov.au.

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Community Participants WANTED!

LAST CHANCE!!

Mossman Community Centre is hosting a series of community projects in 2011 and is now registering local participants.

This is an amazing, **once in a lifetime opportunity** to take part in professionally organised projects that are interesting, fun and have lots of learning opportunities.

Anybody can participate and you don't need experience. What's more, there is no cost to you and lunch is even provided!

Programs will take place in May, June, August/September and October.

What will you get out of taking part?

- Build confidence, meet new people, learn new skills
- Gain valuable work experience
- Work on real life projects with real people
- Meet people from all parts of the world
- Share your own story and personal experience
- Connect with other local people
- Get a boost and new energy working and learning with different people

Registrations close on 8th April, 2011 so REGISTER today!

For registration and more information about the exciting projects available, visit the website or
Mossman Community Centre, 20 Mill Street, Mossman
TEL: 07 4098 2005

www.mossmanprojects.com