MARLIN LIFESTYLE

August 2010 Issue 6

## Adventures of the

## South Pacific

The ramblings of **Captain Muddy Edwards** 

**Pacific Marinelife Institute's** 

**History project** 

**O2G efficiency project** 

**Fishing reports from** 

Tonga

Fiji

Australia

**Another silly Mud story** 

**Resorts of the South Pacific** 



**1000lbers weighed** 





## I was lucky enough to be there

I am fortunate to have seen what I have seen and I missed out on a lot that happened before me and today the new guys are getting some of the best fishing they have ever seen. Is it as good as it was? No but there are always great days and fantastic catches you just have to fish a bit more often. Captain Greg (Muddy) Edwards

I have spent enough time to know I neers is well worth mentioning. can move aside and let the new eager guys compete for the crown. I have achieved just about everything I want to achieve in fishing (except 1000lb Pacific blue, a 10lb tailor from the beach, a bunch more barramundi, a few more deep drop onaga, maybe a few more blue fin tuna and oh a few good seasons out of Vava'u Tonga) so I'd like to go back in time and recount a few times in my life that were a little silly but that was the times.

I remember climbing the back hill to get to the girls in the staff quarters at Lizard Island, paying a Madeira taxi driver a dollar to do donuts in the front drive of the beautiful hotel only to find out the bill for the 5 rooms for ten days had been misplaced and I was going to the Funchal prison if I didn't pay it all, turning first class into no class at all, and so on.

There was plenty of those what I wanted to talk about was the findings of the Pacific Marinelife Institute in regards to the Cairns History Project.

The fishing started in the 1950's out of Cairns and even though they didn't get a grander until 1968 the marlin that were being caught and the ability of the early Cairns pio-

The project has uncovered many names of captains and crew and has led to the interviews of some of the last original remaining participants.

The numbers of thousand pound fish weighted is building with records and old logs revealing fascinating facts such as angler names, weather conditions, bait caught and so on, even dates when different rigging techniques were invented.

It will be fabulous when it all comes together and a real look into Cairns was a place where tag and history will bring to reality of how important marlin fishing was to Cairns and even how integral it was thing they caught. It was also the in getting the big airlines Ansett and TAA (Qantas was international only) to run regular flights to the sugarcane town of Cairns. If you were there you are part of the history and need to get in contact with Ray Joyce and organise copies of photos, and logs or even what you remember of everything to do with the marlin season including hotels, businesses, and names of people you fished with. As for me I remember so many great fishing days and the friends I had the privilege to fish with. There Marinelife Institute which are fightwere ups and also downs, there were tough times and times you

wouldn't be dead for quids, times of fun and times of frustration, if you don't have all the above you just have not fished enough. The only piece of advice I can give to the young ones is to enjoy what you are doing and look after it. I don't mind the taking of a fish here or there and in the early days we didn't have much of an idea about conservation, even though we did bad things that is illegal today we also did learn and were in the forefront to the protection of the reef and the environment. release fishing was practiced while

many places were weighing everyfirst group to embrace the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and assist with its creation only to be penalised by their future actions.

History will show the marlin fishermen protected the famous Cod Hole while other groups exploited it and eventually destroyed it. Listen and learn from the past, you are part of history and history cannot be erased. So go fishing, support quality institutes such as The **Billfish Foundation and Pacific** ing the fights to correctly manage our oceans.

## "Cervantes" 1975 to 1981 Captain Bill Edwards





## In memory of the good old days

See it I don't need to be on the Deadliest Catch to wear the suit but it is a little silly to fish in one on the GBR I must say. A long time ago fishing used to be fun and I find that the fun is drained by paperwork, rules and regulations and lack of play cash. To catch fish is one thing but to have fun is paramount.

Peter B Wright a name synonymous with big game fishing who has had an enormous input into the history of game fishing once told me that fishing is part of the game tropical tours is the rest of it.

He was saying that to succeed in the charter fishing industry you have to entertain your clients. If the fishing is great then anglers will put up with boring crew because the activity is enough to entertain but if it sucks and time is rolling on without a bite then it is important to be able to relate with your clients and make the time enjoyable.

I remember once I was crewing on a boat and we had to fish in a straight line for the day to get to another area. This was ok, but we caught 2 blues on the way and were told to take the lures out as we were wasting time so I took the Crew are charging huge amounts hooks out and watched the marlin continue to bite them, then the captain told us to take them out as man you have to pay more or they well, so it would not upset the charter. After an job.

hour I went down stairs to my room and threw on my mask and flippers and dickies, headed through the cabin slapping down the flippers as I walked and proceeded out into the cockpit with the confused anglers and skipper

following. To the back I went and straight into the big live bait tank and chased around a poor coral trout for twenty minutes. Upon returning from the deep I found the atmosphere relaxed and everyone with smiles talking to each other and having a good time. Things a crew have to do to make the day memorable for guests include not only funny things but also having crew that have the ability to talk beyond fish a more educated conversation. Good crew are able to entertain and also serve the needs of the clients to give value for money. In todays crew I have seen a

change of priority maybe it was because we had more fishing and the bills were not as great but today with fishing days reduced charter prices go up to compensate for the days they cant fill. of money to be there and with reduced days to keep a good crewend up leaving for another type of

I was talking to an old client come friend who still fishes in Cairns and they were saying that another big turnoff for chartering there and in lots of other places now was the use of cameras. One or two is ok but when there was cameras eve-

rywhere then the effort put into a days fishing is put into the film and with underwater cameras crew were sitting inside and watching it on TV and when they did hook up the fight was more toward getting the shot and not in allowing the angler to enjoy and be the centre of attention which they should be since they are paying to be there. Filling a charter boat for a season is a full time job in itself and once you get a client it is your responsibility to give the best you can to not only give value for money but also to have a chance of having them return for another fishing experience.

Peter B Wright was correct and in those days the entertainment was a lot easier as well. We had a "great to see you" attitude at Lizard Island, mother ship get togethers and boats that worked together in the same industry with the thought there is enough for all so lets enjoy. Today raft ups and clients associating with others is few and far between and so much secrete squirrel garbage that eventually anglers are going to be fed up with the crap of fishing Cairns. Crews wake up to yourselves work together and show you clients the good time they deserve. I bet you will not only get more fish but anglers as well.

The future of this needs groups like TBF and Pacific Marinelife Institute Support and work together or all we will be able to write about is History

TBF

Pacific Marinelife Institute

Register support email marlin.lifestyle@gmail.co

In the 1990's on Assegai By Tim Richardson

## Captain Tim Richardson 0427 758 768 , tim@traditioncharters.com

.www.traditioncharters.com

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Charters

Cairns-South Paci

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Situated comfortably in the middle of the South Pacific Islands Fiji is a vacation destination. What better place to visit than Mantaray Island Resort. I have fished with Ryan who runs the resort, no his partner Tina does that he goofs around on the 30'Blackwatch Express.

Every destination you visit there are persons that you meet that you really enjoy hanging out with or just shake you head and enjoy the fact that people all over are different and each person has a right to view life how they feel fit. Ryan is one of these people, born a Queenslander from the Sunshine Coast Australia he had the opportunity to spend time as a child in Fiji and after traveling the world doing god knows what constructive came back to Fiji and started Mantaray Island Resort. At first a backpacker resort his idea was good accommodation and great lots of food with plenty of drinks and good fun activities that you go to Fiji to do. He and his better half Tina have worked hard and built up a fabulous resort catering from backpacker up to 3 star and a reputation as one of the best of its kind in Fiji. Ryan is also a fisherman and loves his fishing, spearing, surfing and beer and has a 30ft Blackwatch Express he runs out of either the resort or Denarau on the mainland. His ability to fish or drive over fish has earned him the reputation as a good fisherman there and he has the results to go with it. If your looking for a place

to go with the family or a bunch of blokes for fun and fishing Ryan is the one to see. Within 4 hours of leaving Australia you can be sitting on the boat or having famous Fiji Gold at Cardo's Bar overlooking the Denarau Marina and all the boats.

This months fishing has ushered in the winter bite and the blue marlin have shown up in reasonable numbers and there are some big ones amongst them. Ryan had had two on over 600lbs in the past couple of weeks and a bunch of others in the couple of hundred At Matava Resort on Kadavu Isrange. The only problem is not enough boats are fishing. On the south side of Fiji from the island of Kadavu, Matava Resort is in full swing with their season which brings in big wahoo and doggies as well as the blues.

It really is a great time of year to be in Fiji. Temperatures averaging around 30C and the water is now dropping off to 26C. The winter sailfish have started to bunch up along the reef edges and last week on Golden Eagle at Gau they were casting stick baits at sailfish as they casually cruised along in 4m of water while they were popper fishing for GT's. The GT's have also been very active as well over

to the east with most sessions averaging 20 fish to 40kg in the 3 hour tide change period. The Southern Lau has been firing for doggies and yellow fin but the trick is to get past the wall of wahoo. The wahoo are so thick on the sea mounts that tired of catching them guests have been throwing hookless stick baits just to tease them. Even the tow cam was eaten but the largest last week were 41kg and 50.5kg and mid sized yellow fin to 40kg and a few blues are also around. land Captain Adrian Watt is reporting a similar scenario with big wahoo, GT's and sails along the edge. Offshore blue marlin and yellow fin to 70kg have been keeping clients happy. July is the Fiji Island Classic out of Denarau so big catches are expected and a big turn up for the competition will bring in the results expected.







goldeneaglefiji,con

Now we are fishing waters that have never had exposure to sport fishing of the calibre offered by the Golden Eagle. I was very excited to find out that the Golden Eagle was now offering fishing expeditions to some of the most remote waters of the Fijian Islands. Fiji's finest long range fishing weapon, the luxurious 51 Bertram has been busy opening up some of the most remote unfished areas in Fiji. The Southern Lau Group 170 miles east of the base at Suva, in the past this area has only been fished by a few traveling boats. After months of negotiations with the Lau Council we were finally given an exclusive license for this untapped fishery that includes a group of sea mounts lousy with big dogtooth tuna and wahoo and some beautiful islands that hold massive GT's as well as all the regular tropical sport fish.

We have hardly scratched the surface of Southern Lau and to date have not fished the same area twice but the results so far in these unchartered waters have been incredible. Our first jigging session on a sea mount resulted in 10 dogtooth to 75kg landed along with a couple of broken jig sticks and two top of the range reels completely smoked. The GT fishing has produced some real quality GT's while trolling has been productive as well with heaps of wahoo, yellow fin, mahi mahi and a few small marlin. During August we hope to do a lot of heavy tackle marlin fishing and the area certainly looks the goods for blues. The Southern Lau Group is accessible from Suva by weekly domestic flights from Suva to Lakeba or Moala Islands or chartering a flight from Nadi. We are only too happy to help with flight bookings and accommodation if required. Guests are comfortably accommodated in 2 double and 1 twin share air conditioned staterooms, all meals are included and fishing tackle supplied. For more information on our live aboard charters to Southern Lau, Gau Group or Kadavu contact George Trinkler on gtrinkler@bigpond.com.

For those that don't know George he has spent considerable time fishing Port Stevens and along the Australian Coast and has been part of the Golden Eagle since I met the whole crew in Fiji a number of years ago. What impressed me was the effort that they put into their fishing and how much they enjoyed doing it. This new ability to fish this area has opened up what I would believe to be some of the wildest fishing areas available at this time in the South Pacific. The Golden Eagle has only scratched this surface of what is available to them now and they have enough new areas there to scratch for a long time to come and I would highly recommend this trip for the angler looking for the trip of a life time.





# The Kingdom of Tonga

Once again the season has rolled around with a slowdown in marlin fishing in the major places like Australia and New Zealand. This is the time to get out of Dodge and head for the South Pacific Islands and there is still no better than Vavaú Tonga. The best news is that the flight service to Vavaú is now increased in regularity and Air Pacific has changed its flight times which allows you to fish until 2.30 in the afternoon run in jump on the plane to the capital and be in Fiji to meet the flight to Brisbane arriving at 11pm or to Las Angeles by morning. Getting there is also the same so travel time has been nearly halved making it a place to go.

Away from that and plenty has been happening on the fishing front and this time the mahi mahi have come on strong with big bulls to 26kg.

This month produced some nicemid body weighed 19kg.settled weather and there wereGT's and the reef species includ-good volumes of bait about froming some great coral trout havekawa kawa, skipjack and schoolbeen showing up in consistentyellow fin. The water temperatureabundance on the eastern side ofaveraged 26 degrees and withthe main island.gentle SE Trades the fishing wasThe other happenings is a newvery comfortable.record for barracuda at 22.5kg on

The billfish action remained steady in the first half of the month then slowed down a bit with the heaviest being weighed in at 182kg by a first time lady angler. The blues were found in reasonable numbers around the middle FAD and western sea mount. Two striped marlin and three sailfish were reported for the month. Yellow fin and the big boys have gone but a few fish in the 15 to 25kg range were reported and most fish were in the 7 to 9 kg. Good action around the FAD but not consistent, here one day gone the next.

With winter in full swing the wahoo are in good numbers with the fish in the 18 to 20kg range mostly found on the South Bank and Middle Ground.

The mahi mahi are in force and there is plenty of very nice fish showing up. Large bulls over 20kg are common and Paul Mead fishing on Dora Mailia hooked up a huge bull to have it eaten at the boat by a shark. The head and mid body weighed 19kg. GT's and the reef species including some great coral trout have been showing up in consistent abundance on the eastern side of the main island.

The other happenings is a new record for barracuda at 22.5kg on 24kg for Lolesio Lui fishing Hakuna Matata and 14kg Coral trout on 15kg for Kiko Uata. Now this time of the year sees the preparation of tournaments and the 19th Tongan International Billfish Tournament is September 17th to 22nd, New Zealand fishing News Tournament October 21st to 28th, Tonga National Tournament 27th November, 4th and 6th December.

If your are keen on these tournaments then I would recommend any as fishing in Vavaú is good and the people are fun and the place is beautiful.

Thanks again to Steve and Caroline from Ika lahi for the report and also I would like to see more international anglers join the Vavaú Sport Fishing Club for a couple of reasons, one it is cool to be a member of a great little club of the South Pacific and one that will make you feel welcome and also money raised helps put in FADs for the club and local fishermen which helps feed the island. Contact Steve on ikalahi@tongafishing.com and help a country become more than a dot on a map.



#### The South Pacific Calls

I have found my Shangri-La after of years looking and it was on my doorstep. They say when you look for greener pastures most often it is under your nose.

The sound of the coconut trees swaying in the south east trades and the sound of the locals singing plore areas never fished and in the distance, sipping on a cold beer and looking up into a sky so clear the stars so bright and numerous that you know that this is paradise and the world can go by without a care.

This is the place to come and fish and I don't mean just Vava'u which you probably know I do have a passion for but the whole of the South Pacific from Tahiti to Cairns Australia there is so many places to go and fish or just cruise that it would be a shame to have a it dropped off in Tahiti and spend

boat and not explore what this world has to offer.

The Caribbean has been done to death as have a lot of places in the the South Pacific. Finish of fishing world but the South Pacific has something to offer that no other place has to offer, a chance to excountries happy to have you there.

This is paradise a Shangri-La and reason why you spend so much time in the office. You buy a boat and leave it at the dock no, you buy a boat to use it and what you need to do is go where it still is an adventure. Yes you can fly to the Bahamas in two hours but after you do it then a new adventure is needed.

Put your boat on a ship and have

twelve months or a couple of years exploring the fishing, island cultures, the whole experience of a Cairns black marlin season and then take the boat to Brisbane and catch a ship back home or sell it in Australia and do it again. There is plenty to offer and once you do it you will be back. I love the place and think it is the most fantastic place on the planet and am happy to assist any vessel with the guts to do it. There are good people throughout the islands that can help you enjoy your trip and make it an experience of a lifetime. If you are game contact me and I will be happy to help put a trip together.

Captain Greg (Muddy) Edwards marlin.lifestyle@gmail.com

MARINE

SEGA

**CONTACT BUILDER BARRY MARTIN** WWW.ASSEGAIMARINE.COM

61-7-55462798

## **Missing Links**

1062

6-10-1972

Percy Childs

# The Fishing Museum Project is looking for information on some 1000lb catches in Cairns.

Pacific Marinlife Institute's Fishing Museum Project is gaining significant momentum and is looking for your assistance in finding missing information to complete its current weigh list of over 1600 Cairns 1000lb Black Marlin. If you can assist with information on the capture date, boats, skippers and crew, plus any story's that goes with the capturing of any of the fish below, please contact the project's Historian, Ray Joyce on ray.joyce@pacificmarinelife.com

Weight	Date	Angler	Boat	Weight	Date	Angler	Boat
1309	7-8-1979	Ron Flett		1062	19-10-1969	Geo Williams	
1300	11-11-1987	Daniel Lopuszanski		1060		Jerry Dunaway	
1289		Dale C Critz		1056	27-9-1970	Bill Chapman	
1277	7-11-1994		Balek 3	1055		George H Glass	
1249	29-11-1996	lan Loft		1052		Jan S Roush	
1221		James Bayliss		1047		Michael Saragusa	
1212		James E Heaton		1031	12-11-1971	Barry Hill	
1212		J. Larry Barr		1025		David Fawcett	
1179		Alexander L Martone		1014		Joseph A Houck	
1179		Doug Dryden		1011	19-10-1992	Deyna Daito	
1177		Patrick Roush		1008		Archie Lowery	
1168		James E Heaton		1000		Vincent Kilborn	
1160		Marc Giraud				11	
1135	27-11-1997	Roland G Heck		-	3/	4	
1127		Claude Archer		1	- 17	-	and the second second
1121		Christine Gay		Same La	-		
1113	3-11-1975	G. Isbell			and a strength of the strength		No. of Concession, Name
1113		Masahiko Inoue				1918	ANT -
1109		David G Tompson		No.			State of the second
1106	2-10-1989	J Parker					
1084	24-9-1995		Kestelle				
1080		Dale Critz				die en ite werte De	tauri Davi ta
1079		Bob Oliver			-	d is on its way to Bo	
1078		Graham Baker		• •		oming season in NS ng machine brought	
1075	12-9-1988	Harold J Nye		-		eady surpassed the	
1074		John Michael Stubbs				ing fitted out with t	
1069		Mark Reid		•		e of fishing just a lit	•
1066	21-10-1970	Dave Cave			-	ie and may your ne	
1065	18-10-1975	F. Inscho		•		g on offer in Austral	

day out into the South Pacific.



Granders, thousand pounders are what we want to record for the museum. Whether marlin, tuna or sharks if you have caught one or have pictures of one could you scan and email them to the Pacific Marinelife Institute so they are recorded for history. At this stage we are completing the history of Cairns but would like to start keeping records of fish weighed around the world. Www.info@pacificmarinelifeinstitute.com





The biggest fish of my life and it happens so many times I am immune to it. I cant count how many times we have clients arrive for a fishing trip and are so hung over from a huge drink the night before and it is not just seasoned but first timers who have never been to sea.

This trip was no different and my friend Tim arrives with others to Lizard Island looking like the bottom end of a used nappy.

The saving grace was it was slick calm and we had chosen November for that reason since Tim had never been to sea and had never even picked up a rod or caught a fish in his life.

We headed out and it was an absolute pearler of a day and even though the fishing may be slower on days like this I was happy for the guys not to have to endure a day of rough weather in their condition. I had decided to fish from the top of ten ribbon to the bottom and stay there for the evening.

Within an hour Tim comes out of and asked if we could head in and recover for the rest of the day, shit ÖK we will fish straight to the bottom since we are about half way already" With a no problem I straightened up and headed south. A prefect day with a little swell and beautiful water and current heading south and were south of the Marks and 5 mile from the bottom. Tim came out on energy saving pattern even deck either to get fresh air or to throw up when it happened "on the right", a nice fish came up and engulfed the scaley we had skipped along the top. Tim had no choice and was thrust into the chair for his first ever fishing experience. We knew in a short time it was a very nice fish but never got a good look at her but for Tim he had no idea on anything accept to wonder what the hell he was doing in the middle of the day with the sun belting down, still in pain from the night before and having a huge rod and reel buckled to him in front and line crackling out at a rapid rate.

The first fifteen minutes was of a new angler with no idea fighting against the tackle and expending most of his energy. As with most anglers we make sure the liquids

are kept up and for Tim he was going to need a lot more than usual. The fish was heading out to sea and it was obvious it was not going to be a short fight. The next fifteen minutes was good to watch Tim settle in and find a rhythm and start getting into an though he wanted so badly to get out of the chair and go back to sleep and pretend it was all a bad "Not a chance dream. Tim you are there for the long haul drink plenty of water and enjoy". After

an hour we still had not had a good look at the fish so we set up the gaffs in case it was a giant. We were already three miles out to sea but at least we were keeping the fish upset and she was now changing directions trying to get in a comfort zone and then it happened, She went straight down and didn't stop and it was obvious she was in a death dive and there was nothing we could do about it. At five hundred feet she stopped and it was over for her. It was now a game of getting her back without breaking her off not easy

considering we still have an angler with more alcohol in the system then blood, a hot sun and no wind. over a swell we lost line and the In a situation like this we have to look at the currents and swell and then with the boat slowly in and out of gear to try to get the fish moving upward. It is called planning the fish up and can be a long and painful task and one that patience is needed for. A large amount of fish are lost in the last one hundred feet when the line stretch is at it's minimum and the drag is near the maximum. One hour of driving forward and getting enough angle to then back down and retrieve on to the reel was wearing thin on our exhausted disenchanted angler right up to the time the peg mark which is the distance the bait is from the outrigger clip. It was the sight of that clip that revived Tim as he could see for the first time he may win this battle.

This of course is the hardest part of planning a fish up and is only a fly poo away from hero to zero on the drag and stretch. At this stage of the fight it is important to just take your time and be patient and

in this case we had a swell to contend with and every time we went angler has to make sure not to put would ever better what he had too much hand pressure on the line in case of breaking it. I had settled everyone down and decided the best way with the swell since driving forward was not working as well so we used the eight pounds. It is still my largest current to drift away from the fish and slowly we got her moving again. Ten minutes later and there she was below us and it looked as though the sharks had eaten her until we realised she was upside down and her white belly was showing.

Success we had managed to get her up and being dead we put her into the boat and peeled Tim out of the chair for his first look at the first fish he had ever caught. Once in the boat we realised how big the fish was and easy thousand pounds and with the measurements it was clear it was well over.

We were on our way back to Lizard to the weigh station and our new fishermen cracked a few beers to top up the night before

and I suggested to Tim that now would be a good time to give up fishing as there is little chance he just caught.

Two hours fishing in his life, two hours fighting the fish and a fish that eventually weighed in at one thousand two hundred and ninety and it was also hooked on the outside of the mouth so the six pound bait was gone which was lucky as I always said I would full mount a thirteen hundred pounder. We don't take many fish anymore but it is ones like this that will always be in my memories and never forgotten.





Hot fishing for small black marlin is starting out from Cairns as well as some great spanish mackerel along the reefs. The yellow fin and wahoo are turning up on the outer reef areas and with the trades blowing well this year the giant black marlin season is shaping up to be a good one. The heavy tackle season starts in September and spots are available this year.



#### It is Time for Science

Pacific Marinelife Institute Director, David Joyce, shares his perspective on the future.

Management of our oceans and their resources is being derailed by a lack of science and the political ambitions of some. But what is really right for the environment is not always the outcome. It is time to get to the science and base management on the facts.

There are significant decisions being made about the management of Australia's fisheries and greater marine biodiversity at present, and there are major reviews on the horizon. And what will affect some of the outcomes is the lack of science the recreational angler has available to them, and the political positioning of others.

At the moment the Australian government is preparing a management plan for the entire Commonwealth waters not already contained within marine parks. There will also be major changes to how key species such as snapper are managed and fished. While all coral reef species within the Great Barrier Reef will come under review within the next two years and the zones of the GBR itself will come under review within the next five years.

What the current process for the Marine Bioregional Plan of Commonwealth waters or the recent reviews of marine parks in Queensland has proven, is that we have not learnt from our previous mistakes. Many still believe the only way to fight something is with a political message, and both the charter fishing industry and recreational angler have not overcome the lack of science we have available to present as part of any representation or consultation process.

Many of the reviews and changes to marine parks are part of obligations Australia has made to the international community, in some cases many years ago. No matter which side of politics is in control, they will have an obligation to continue the process. Without the science, the resource managers will take the precautionary principle.

So we need to get back to the science. Gather the real data. Find out what changes have occurred. Understand why and better predict the future. And importantly accept the umpire's decision that offers everyone sustainable access and protection of the marine environment for future generations.

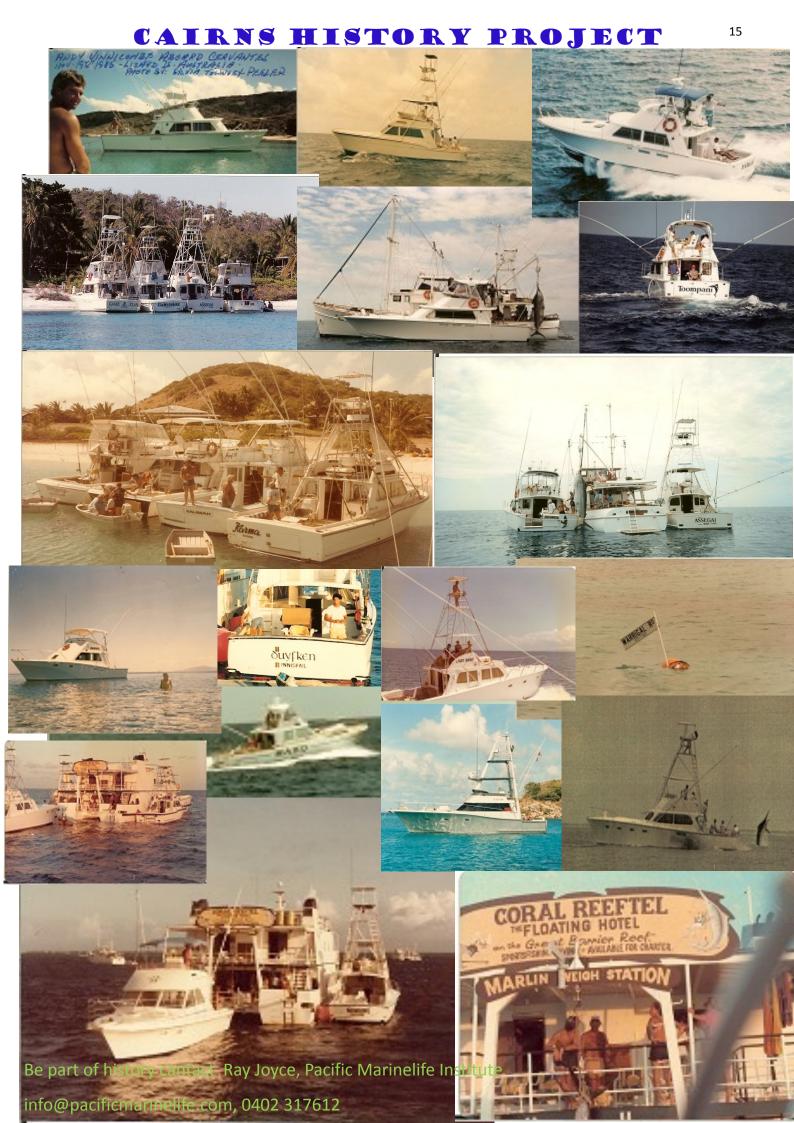
### Cur Oceans Cur Future

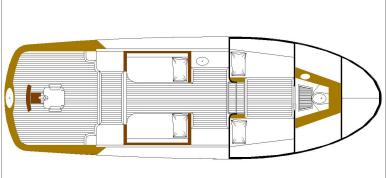
David Goyce

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# The Ocean2Green eco sport fisher building challenge

At last a challenge for all budding sports fishermen to argue over, a chance for manufacturers of prod- For companies with the winning uct to stand up and be reviewed and a possibility for a company to produce these vessels.

This is a project that sets out to see what the future game fishing boat will look like and what innovations are out there that will make it the most efficient and economical day fishing boat that carries only the necessary gadgets to be in the forefront of technology and a layout that is comfortable for all on board especially the ing to be sent out to those with anglers.

different products and sort out the crap from the clay and come up with a boat that will stand up to the rigours of the South Pacific and handle any fishing including giant marlin on 130 with a look that makes people want to fish on it.

We are setting up a web site and expect the design to take twelve months before starting the build and everything down to the brand name is up for grabs.

The rules are simple if it is a stupid idea we will delete it and a good idea will be thrown around and if it is incorporated into the

listed on the great ideas board. products we will then spec the vessel with the gear and subsequent others as well.

It is also up for tender for companies to include the vessel into their range and brand it with their company name (unless it is Cuddles Boats sorry guys not tough enough).

Barry Martin at Assegai Marine will be the designer of the vessel and drawing up a basic lines drawthe desire to draw their layout We are going to review a bunch of and style if they can improve on the look of an Assegai. The boat will be 40ft in length so it is large enough to be comfortable but it is not to be jammed with crap. It is a day fishing vessel and not a house only 1 toilet, great lounge, maybe an open cockpit saloon and an awesome cockpit.

> For some that want ideas go back in history and look at the 37,43 Merritt or some of the original Cairns boats, 37 Rybovich, G&S Carolina boats etc.

It is up to your imagination but it must be laid out so everything has a place, is easy to get to and not a

boat then you will win nothing but problem to maintain. It also has to be light only needs to cruise at 23 knots and be efficient the target is 30% cheaper to run and operate. We will be offsetting our eco footprint with the planting of enough trees to cover the build and will be looking at material that is either plantation or more eco friendly. All companies will also be scrutinised for their eco footprint and calculated into the eventual completed product. For electronics the quality and technology is important this must be the best for the purpose of fishing. Mechanicals it comes down to efficiency as well as the ability to be able to service the gear or have back up anywhere in the South Pacific as quickly as we would expect when running a charter boat.

> Interior is laid out to be able to option it up as far as you want but the basic model is able to fish without adding anything and at a realistic price. The standard vessel is what we are after but thought has to go in to the design so as the positions of the add on's is known and installation is easy after the vessel has been launched. Let the games begin marlin.lifestyle@gmail.com



#### Tradition gets a facelift

Captain Tim Richardson has been working hard at the Gold Coast City Marina giving his pride and joy the Dick Ward built Tradition a new cockpit makeover and full paint job. The results are stunning with the use of Glazerite Paint which has given Tradition a spectacular shine and brought it back to looking new. Working with Ryan Leigh Smith of GCCM made the painting process easy with the availability of huge sheds to be able to work inside in a clean environment and all weather conditions. Utilising the local businesses around the precent Tim was able to organise the work to be done as well as being active in the work.

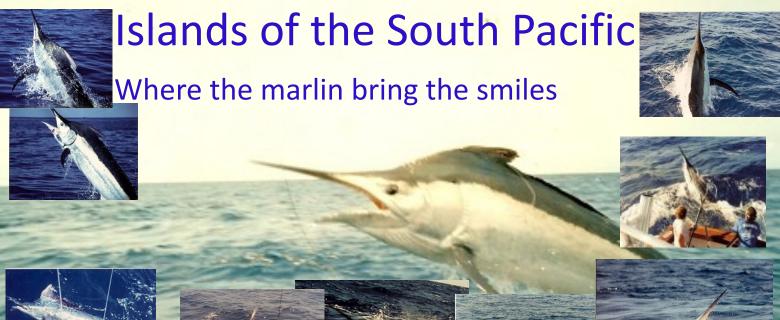
Tim also replaced the teak cockpit adding a new cockpit drainage system and one of the most important items in the cockpit a storage locker for the rubbish bin so as not to ever see it float around the game chair while fighting a big fish. Installed in the cockpit overhang is the new led lighting and mounted cameras and cockpit cover track which is now built into the overhang. With everything polished, waxed or painted Tradition is looking great and thanks to the facilities at the Gold Coast City Marina Tim is one very happy person.

## Golden Eagle smashes competition in Fiji Classic

The annual Denarau Game Fishing Club's competition once again proved to be an exciting tournament and the winners for the third time in the past 3 years was Golden Eagle with a bunch of wahoo on 10kgand finishing off on the last day with 5 sailfish tagged out near Viwa Island. Celebrations held at Cardo's Restaurant were top notch and congratulations to the Game Fishing Club for such a well run Tournament.



Muds Final Say is about climate change and what I think. Since the climate has been changing from the beginning of time I suppose it is true but what I see as the problem is more pollution, overpopulation and environmental damage caused by humans until recently unknowingly understanding the effects that were creating the damage. Unfortunately there are political agendas and financial gain that are of no benefit and decisions are being made with flawed science and a push from groups after only one outcome. I am a firm believer in cleaning up the pollution, get back to the basics of fixing the damage, understand the genuine science and get proper management into the different eco-systems. We have to be aware of our footprint and work on cleaning it up correctly not by thinking "I drive a Prius so I am doing good" that only changes your fuel from unleaded to coal. I have a dream of having fishermen around the world sitting down not ranting and working together for a better future and clean up as best as they can their footprint. I want every fisherman to show support to the Pacific Marinelife Institute and The Billfish Foundation and lets start showing who cares.



#### Charter Boats of the South Pacific Australia

Cool Runnings –41' Dick Ward –David– 0400 654 871 - coolrunnings@hotmail.com Askari -55' Assegai -Capt Corey Hard - 0427 225 576 - hardcoregamefishing@bigpond.com Tradition - 49' Dick Ward -Capt Tim Richardson - 0427 758 768 - tim@traditioncharters.com Viking II -46' Woodnut -Capt Billy Billson -0427 183 159 - viking11@bigpond.com Castille -47' Obrien -Capt Dean Beech -0427 766 876 - dean@castillecharters.com Kekoa -56' Obrien -Capt Luke Fallon -0428 789 840 - info@kekoa.com.au Fiji

Golden Eagle - 50'Bertram– George Trinkler- (61) 418 831 004 - gtrinkler@bigpond.com Matava Resort –Bite Me -Capt Adrian Watt -(679) 992 7124 - matava@connect.com.fj Mantaray Island Resort -Rogue -Capt Ryan Irvine -(679) 9925674 - bookings@mantarayresort.com Xtasea Charters - Wai Tadra -Capt Rob Krause -(679) 992 7124 - info@xtaseacharters.com Solomon Islands

Lalae Charters -Capt Steve Goodhew -(677) 96000 - info@lalae.com.sb Tonga

Ika Lahi Lodge –Reel Addiction -Capt Steve Campbell -(676) 70611 - ikalahi@tongafishing.com Vanuatu

Vavuatu Game Fishing -Escapade -Capt Andrew Hibgame -(678) 554 7147 - escapade@vanuatu.com.vu Ocean Blue Vanuatu –Anthony Pisano –02 928 01405 –antos@bigpond.com

Seascape Charters –Island Flyer -Lee Whiteley -(678) 37379 - islandflyer@vanuatu.com.vu V-Factor Charters -V-Factor -Capt John Moore -(678) 537 6722 - moorejohng@yahoo.com.au Papua New Guinea

Mudman - Capt Noel Edwards -(675)479 1318 -kangebookies@global.net.pg (not related to Capt Mud)





