

Welcome to our latest newsletter,

It has been another exciting year for the Eye to Eye Marine Encounters. From our involvement with the largest underwater documentary ever produced ('Oceans' will screen around the world on Earth Day 2010) to reuniting with some 'old friends' during the minke season, Eye to Eye has continued to connect people with nature and provide exciting adventures.

TRIPS

Last week saw the completion of our latest trip, a documentary with the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Company) to document the evolution of coral reefs and the lifecycle of one of the oldest mariners in the sea, the nautilus. On the way out to the field site, the team were lucky enough to come across the only known white humpback whale in the world. 'Migaloo' is the name Australian Aboriginal community elders from the Hervey Bay area in Queensland use to describe a White Fella. This is a rare sighting and one that will be treasured by all.



Our role in documentary films has continued to expand this year with the German television crew VDZ also accompanying us to Osprey Reef. Despite rough conditions the team were able to get some amazing sequences of sharks, and record in-depth interviews with our researchers. The piece will be screened in Germany later this year.

Despite a mild winter this year, the Minke whales made their scheduled appearance on the GBR and once again captivated us with their grace and playful natures.



One of their biggest fans was a new member of the Eye to Eye family, Bryant Austin. As the only person in the world to compose and produce high resolution life-size photographs of whales, his group (Marine Mammal Conservation Through the Arts) attempts to unveil their mystery by communicating their true scale and depth. Bryant

spent 5 weeks with us during the Minke season, getting some phenomenal images (we had a sneak peak!) and is now getting ready to exhibit them in controversial whaling nations, Norway and Japan.

His work speaks to children, adults, and policy makers in the aim to peacefully inspire change within countries who continue to hunt or harm whales. To learn more about Bryant and his remarkable quest please visit his website: www.mmcta.com



Another familiar face on board the Minke trips this year was world renowned photographer, Douglas Seifert accompanied by his beautiful partner, Emily. Doug and Emily spent 2 weeks with the minkes and potato cod capturing some amazing moments on camera which will be published in an upcoming UK magazine, Diver. Whilst onboard they announced their engagement party which we attended at DEMA. What a night with great food and wine (thanks Doug!), lots of laughs and a collection of some of the nicest people involved in the dive industry over many, many years.

This season we also worked with Marine Boy Productions on their film, 'Whale Quest'. Rob Torelli and Mark Priest (Australian open spear-fishing champions) traded in their spear guns and went beyond the bounds of conventional videography by doing most of their camera work on snorkel. Their exceptional lung capacity and lack of equipment allows them more freedom and stealth. This has earned them a reputation for recording world-class footage and capturing rare behaviours. Keep an eye out for our minkes who will be starting in this upcoming Animal Planet documentary.

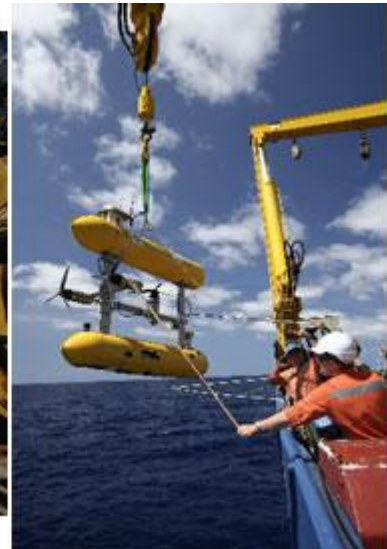
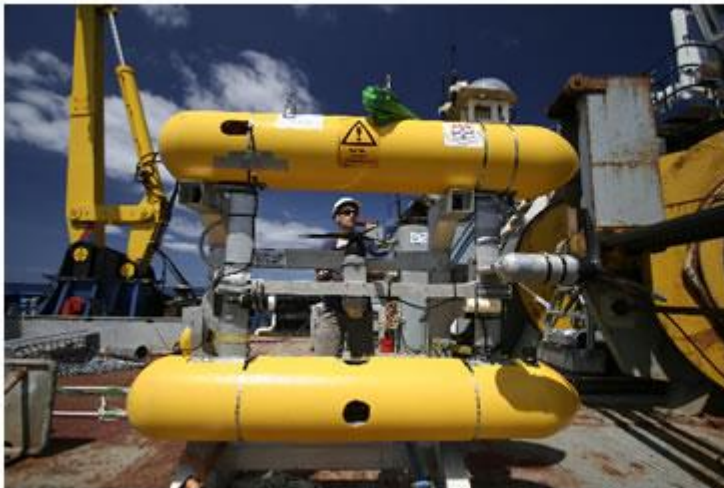


For the shark enthusiasts among you, there are still a few berths available on our Shark Discovery Expedition in November. Run in collaboration with the Discovery Channel and World Wildlife Fund, this trip will be hosted by world-renown shark researcher/cinematographer Richard Fitzpatrick and the WWF conservation research

team, on board Mike Ball's Spoilsport. For more information on this exciting underwater adventure please check out the [itinerary](#)

RESEARCH

We are currently working on facilitating a deep sea exploration project in collaboration with James Cook University, the Australian Centre for Field Robotics and Australian Institute of Marine Science. An AUV camera, programmed to capture an image every second is planned to be deployed for a series of 3 hour dives to help scientists map the sea floor, identify new species and provide a better understanding of deep ocean ecology in the Coral Sea.



In other news, we are happy to report that our company will be featured in the upcoming guidebooks, Footprint Dive the World 2 and Fodor's Australia 2010. So keep a lookout for these!

Also, John Rumney will be attending the Marine Mammal Conference in Quebec this year. His involvement will ensure that we remain up to date with cutting edge research and expand our networks, fostering relationships with researchers and whale enthusiasts for future collaboration.

SAFETY

The team at Eye to Eye Marine Encounters is proud to offer exclusive rights for the sale of ENOS (in the USA and Australasia), a revolutionary diver rescue system. ENOS was developed and manufactured in Germany and allows individuals in distress to signal their GPS location directly to the boat, providing a quick and efficient recovery. This device was developed specifically for SCUBA divers/snorkellers but can be used for other range of other activities (e.g. surfing, sailing, kayaking, windsurfing, kite boarding, etc)

ENOS is already saving lives and money (it avoids financially expensive rescue operations). It is operational in many parts of the world, including the Galapagos (Aggressor), Maldives, Seychelles and Red Sea and its reputation is continuing to grow. It has recently received very positive reviews from the German Maritime SAR (Search and Rescue) service who were delighted with its ease of use and accuracy.

For more information on ENOS please contact us or visit the following website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ENOS_Rescue-System

And finally, for the di(v)e-hard fans

A small group of dedicated Eye to Eye staff have been meeting on a weekly basis to further develop the sustainable tourism-research model. Built on the concept first trialled by John Rumney on Undersea Explorer and now employed by Eye to Eye, the focus is on its future direction and growth eg. increasing our scope of research, scientist presence, conservation activities (starting a not-for-profit foundation to protect the reef) and finding a patron to provide funding for a new boat. If you are interested in showing your support for this vision or staying up to date with our activities please feel free to join the free group, Undersea Explorer Dream on [Facebook](#).



Best fishes,

The Marine Encounters team