



## Community Reference Group *Port Of Airlie*

Edition 4

### WEB SITE - KEEPING INFORMED

Almost 7,000 people have visited the CRG's web site which provides one of the most effective ways of keeping the community informed about development progress and relevant issues.

More than 30 people have used the web site over the past year to register their interest in employment opportunities. Twenty-eight others have used the site to register their interest as potential suppliers of goods and services.

The latest development photos are regularly uploaded to the web site and you can use it to direct questions about the development.

The web site's address is:  
[www.crgairlie.com.au](http://www.crgairlie.com.au)

### PORT OF AIRLIE MARINA BASIN SURROUNDED

The marina basin for the Port of Airlie development now has been surrounded by sheet piling, bund and armour rock walls.

Enclosing the basin has allowed land reclamation works to be accelerated.

It also has signalled the commencement of environmental remediation works to deal with the tributyl tin (TBT) evident in some areas of the site.

The TBT has been identified as having come from the uncontrolled vessel dumping, paint scraping, anti-fouling and other boat maintenance work that historically but recklessly, has occurred along the Muddy Bay foreshore.

The TBT now is being extracted and managed in accord with a containment program approved and supervised by the

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### THE NEXT STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR PORT OF AIRLIE

- De-watering the area behind the northern bund wall
- Importing sand to create the public beach on the northern side of the development
- Excavation of mud and residual materials in the marina basin
- Stage two piling will be undertaken early in 2008. It will involve removing temporary piles and completing the land based piling.

# PORT OF AIRLIE - HOW IT LOOKS TODAY AND TOMORROW



## **Cont. from Page 1**

Environmental Protection Agency. The aerial photographs on the previous page and above, clearly show the different soil types on the site.

The very dark grey is the surface mud; the lighter and brown coloured materials are the firm soil types which exist below it.

The construction program revolves around recovering the firm material below the mud and using it to create new land areas.

The mud then is placed back into the excavated hole. Ultimately, it again will form the top layer facing the water above it.

That means a series of 'slots' have to be created to give access to the needed fill material.

The fill material then is placed elsewhere on the site with the slots later being partially refilled with the mud.

The photograph above shows fill material being excavated from one of the slots.

To give an indication of the rate of construction

progress, around 50,000 cubic metres of mud and 40,000 cubic metres of residual clays and rock are excavated and re-placed on site in a month.

The excavation machinery includes 30 and 60 tonne excavators as well as articulated, six wheel drive dump trucks.

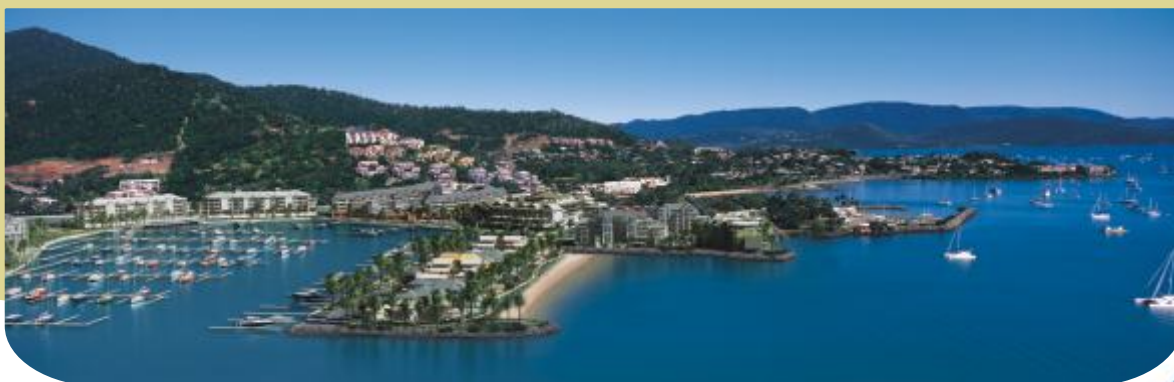
The armour rock in the charter boat area (seen in the foreground of the aerial photo on the previous page) has been sourced from Whitsunday Shire Council's Foxdale Quarry.

Vibration, noise monitoring and water quality testing is continuing to be undertaken in accord with the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

The aerial photograph on the previous page also shows how a northern bund wall is being created.

A public beach will be formed on the northern side of the land being created.

Residential components of the development will be created on the southern side.



CRG Airlie - facilitating communications between the Port of Airlie and the community



Community Reference Group  
*Port Of Airlie*

## CHAIRMAN AWARDED

The Chairman of the Community Reference Group for the Port of Airlie, Dr Hugh Lavery, (pictured at right), has been named as the inaugural winner of the Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) of the Year for Australia and New Zealand.



His award was conferred at the 20th anniversary gala dinner of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).

Currently in his 50th year of professional practice, Dr Lavery has been a pioneer in the field of environmental sciences and management.

Dr Lavery helped establish modern nature conservation with his work in Queensland back in the 1950's.

Twenty years ago, he began advising corporate Australia on appropriate environmental management strategies and practices.

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT RESULT

An independent audit of the Port Of Airlie's compliance with approved environmental and other operational practices has revealed it to be conforming in "an exemplary and diligent manner", with a score card of 93.1 percent.

The investigation was carried out for the Federal and State regulatory agencies - in particular, the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage and the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency - by an independent auditor which they approved in the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

A project audit was carried out on site at Airlie Beach and in the offices of the Windward AB's environmental advisor (GHD) at Mackay.

The independent audit involved site inspections, interviews with key staff and inspections of paper and electronic records.

The auditor concluded that "overall at this stage of the project, the environment surrounding the development site is not being put at significant risk of impact from the development and that appropriate environmental protection measures are in place and are well maintained".

Some exceptions to the approval conditions were noted. The most significant related to a temporary southern bund being at an incorrect angle from the shore resulting in its seaward end being 30 metres away from that depicted on the approved drawings.

The report also noted that the Windward's staff and representatives were helpful and constructive at all times.

GHD and construction contractors Goldings have since advised that they have moved quickly to address the issues raised by the auditor.

## FAST FACTS ON DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

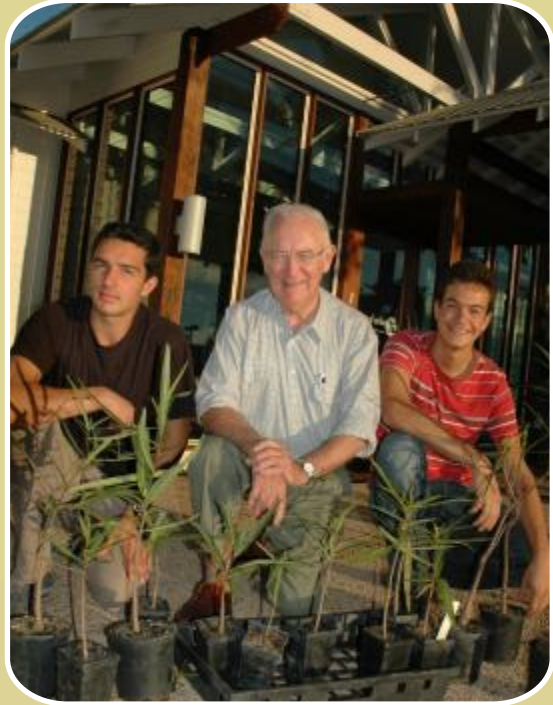
Amount of fill material moved to date:	235,778 cubic metres
Amount of mud excavated and moved:	44,125 cubic metres
Amount of rock armour placed:	30,846 tonnes
Length of sheet piling driven:	1,107 metres in width
Days lost since project commencement:	54.5 (primarily due to weather).



## International focus on Port Of Airlie environment

Six students from l'Ecole Polytechnique, established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1804 and which since has become one of the most prestigious 'great schools' of Europe, recently visited Airlie and under the direction of CRG Chairman, Dr Hugh Lavery:

- Mapped 22 mangrove forests comprising about 133,000 trees including one single tree of the happy-face mangrove
- Surveyed six permanent transect lines through them to establish profile information including species, numbers, height structure, seedling recruitment and mature tree mortality
- Mapped and photographed all individual hard corals in Abel Point Marina and plotted these against pontoon location and type, water depth, adjacent boat traffic, water depth, effects on pontoons, and future management needs and opportunities
- Mapped and photographed all individual soft and hard corals in the vicinity of the public boat ramp at the northern end of the Port Of Airlie
- Collected and measured all rubbish in the boat ramp area and determined its sources
- Searched for distribution areas of the living fossil, lamp shell beyond Port of Airlie
- Planted 11 rare Whitsunday bottle trees from Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Nursery, Proserpine, at



the Port of Airlie Information Centre. Currently, only 362 trees have been recorded on the mainland

- Established suitable water quality monitoring sites in Muddy Bay for long-term operational purposes
- Located the core ecosystems area of Airlie Beach to suggest the ideal route for an environmental promenade beside it.

## Turtles and fish find freedom over the wall

Part of the de-watering program for the bunded area involved the capture and release of marine life still residing inside the marina boundary.



The final relocation program saw five turtles returned to the bay, bringing the total to nine.

Leopard rays, eagle rays, shovelnose rays, a moray eel and fish including grunter, bream and sweetlip also were returned to the waters outside the wall.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries assisted with the capture and release effort.

In total, more than 3,000 fish were safely translocated to the bay side of the wall.

### CONTACT CRG AIRLIE

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