



23 July 2009

This week at your RTO

Dear Member,

Here is a quick update on some of the activities at TTNQ this week:

Tony Baker appointment

Quicksilver Group General Manager Tony Baker is one of five tourism and business heavyweights appointed to the Tourism Queensland Board this week. His appointment is welcome news for Tropical North Queensland as he understands the importance of creating and supporting tourism jobs during these tough financial times.

A whale of a time

Congratulations to Reef Magic for creating a new product for the region, Whale Watching Tours Cairns. Instead of leaving one of their boats idle, the local company has answered the demand of tourists and locals to go whale watching in July and August. A spotter aircraft will track the whales so the vessel can head to the right place each day and a sighting is guaranteed.

Changing of the guard

TTNQ will soon be farewelling two of its valuable team players. Marketing Group Director David Rose is leaving the tropics for the political hotbed of Canberra where he will take up the position of Head of Communications for the British High Commission. Destination Development Director John McIntyre will still be a familiar face around town, but after seven years with TTNQ, he is pursuing his interest in indigenous development.

Great Barrier Reef still a Wonder

We welcome the news this week that the Great Barrier Reef has made the final round in a global contest to select the new Seven Wonders of Nature. With Cairns' position as the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, it translates into more publicity for this region. Keep the votes coming by going to www.australia.com

Export ready seminars

TTNQ has secured funds from the Australian Government to assist regional tourism businesses engage with international markets. The grant will fund seminars to be run by ATEC in five locations - the Cassowary Coast, the Atherton Tableland, Cape York Peninsula, Port Douglas and Cooktown - during August. Members of local and regional tourism organisations have been invited to attend.

Rob Giason
Chief Executive Officer