



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*For immediate release  
5pm 31 October 2016*

### **NEW BOARD ELECTED FOR TOURISM WHITSUNDAYS**

Tourism Whitsundays (TW) Annual General Meeting was held today followed by a board meeting of the newly elected board.

New office bearers for the Tourism Whitsundays Board were Naomi McKinnon, owner of the Fat Frog Beach Café, Jess Bruce from The Wedding Planners and Greg Waites, General Manager at Coral Sea Resort were elected to the board. Jan Claxton from Ocean Rafting and Toni Ward from Whitsunday Jetski Tours were re-elected for the second term

The five will join continuing board members Al Grundy from Explore Whitsundays, Andrew Telford from Macrossan and Associates, Matt Boileau from Hamilton Island along with elected and invited positions of Mayor Andrew Wilcox, Jonathan Freeman from Bowen Tourism and Business, Nick Hortle from Cruise Whitsundays and Racheal Klitscher from Tourism and Events Queensland.

At the Director meeting following the AGM Al Grundy was elected as Chairperson with Nick Hortle as Deputy Chair, Greg Waites as Treasurer and Andrew Telford as Secretary.

Mr Grundy was delighted to accept the position as Chairman for a second year and is looking forward to continuing the great work that has been set out.

“I would like to make special mention and thanks to the outgoing Board Members Trevor Rees, David Stielow and Scott Wilkinson. Throughout a very trying 12 months, they have made a significant contribution to the destination during the separation of Whitsundays Marketing and Development Limited.”

Tourism Whitsundays would also like to make special mention of thanks to Judy Porter who took on the role Caretaker CEO during the transitional period of separating Whitsundays Marketing and Development Limited (WMDL) and Danielle Krista who assisted with the legalities of the constitution and company rules for the new entity.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer Craig Turner said it was great to have a strong, robust and passionate Board of Directors.

“The TW Board provides the strategic direction for destination marketing in the Whitsundays and they volunteer their time to contribute on behalf of the industry. Our team is looking forward to an engaged board that is enthusiastic and can continue to drive the organisation to position the destination as one of the best places in the world to visit.”

“We released our report card for the first quarter today, and as you will be able to see in a very short time we have already completed a great deal of activity for the destination. We look forward to the next 12 months and what we will be able to achieve.”

### **About Us**

In the heart of the Great Barrier Reef on Queensland's coast, the Whitsundays is made up of 74 island wonders in the tropical waters of the Coral Sea.

The Whitsundays is the perfect place to swim and snorkel, or charter a boat and cruise the islands, and witness the diversity of marine life including turtles, dolphins, countless species of fish and thousands of colourful corals.

To download the 2015-16 Annual Report, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report Card or to find out more about the Whitsundays, go to [www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au](http://www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au)

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