

*For immediate release
1 April 2021*

Get ready now for Recyclable Regatta

If you want to be involved in this year's Recyclable Regatta as part of the Great Barrier Reef Festival, now is the time to start planning.

The festival is proud to announce a major sponsor for this year's regatta – Anything Environmental. The family owned and operated business has the contract for the Collect Refund Point for the Queensland Government's Containers for Change program and has depots in Jubilee Pocket and Proserpine as well as Mackay.

Owned by Jason Morley and Jo Higgins, Anything Environmental is proud to be helping our community, rather than letting waste go to landfill.

Ms Higgins said they were excited to be part of this year's festival and that the Recyclable Regatta highlighted the need for more recycling.

"Recycling is our passion," she said.

"It's all about protecting the environment and the beautiful Great Barrier Reef."

Co-ordinator of the Recyclable Regatta, Andrea Farley said this was a great chance to re-use items that reflected our lifestyle in Airlie Beach.

The festival will be held August 5-8 and the Recyclable Regatta is one of the feature attractions of the festival each year.

The rafts must be made out of recyclable materials but any type of oar or paddle can be used. This event is open to all ages and provides great family fun. There are a maximum of three people in each crew.

"It's a great way to bring the community together and the event highlights the importance of protecting the Great Barrier Reef," Mrs Farley said.

She said people planning to take part should start collecting materials now to build their rafts.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer, Tash Wheeler, said the Recyclable Regatta was such a great way to highlight the importance of recycling to preserve our natural environment.

"The Whitsundays is home to so many natural wonders such as the Great Barrier Reef, 74 Islands and ancient rainforests, any little step we can take to keep this part of the world pristine and educate our community is an essential one," she said.

Great Barrier Reef Festival chairperson, Margie Murphy said the festival would be celebrating its 21st birthday in 2021 and she was pleased that the event would be going ahead after being cancelled last year due to covid restrictions.

"We will ensure we comply with covid regulations in 2021 and are very excited that the Recyclable Regatta will be part of the festival again."

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Anything Environmental is the perfect partner for this event,” she said.

Registrations for the regatta have not yet opened, but now is the time to start collecting your materials to build your raft.

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About Tourism Whitsundays: *Tourism Whitsundays (TW) is the organisation responsible for destination marketing and visitor attraction for the Whitsunday region. It is the lead agency recognised by Tourism and Events Queensland and the Whitsunday Regional Council to lead the promotion of the region as a tourism destination. Tourism Whitsundays markets all aspects of the region including the Great Barrier Reef, Whitsunday Islands and Coast, accommodation, boating and sailing, fishing, touring, recreational activities, adventure, dining, shopping, weddings and honeymoons, conferencing and business events.*

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