

# LIZARD ISLAND RESEARCH STATION GREAT BARRIER REEF AUSTRALIA

A facility to support coral reef research.



No.2

## NEWSLETTER

March 1975

### PRESENT FACILITIES

The visitor's cottage should be finished by next month and will be self-contained with two bedrooms having a total capacity of 6 persons. The tent accommodation will hold 8 persons, with 2 kitchen tents and 2 storage tents. The temporary lab provides bench space for 5 persons. Our small seawater system is functioning very well and provides fresh sea water from a 500 gallon tank for numerous aquaria which are housed on a bench beneath the lab veranda. With the addition of another small diesel generator I can now provide 240v electricity as required. Basic equipment in the lab includes 2 Nikon binocular microscopes, 1 electric balance, 1 mechanical balance and miscellaneous sorting trays plus plastic containers.

Our fleet of boats has been increased by the addition of a 21 foot Haines Hunter speedboat. We now have 2 workboats (15') and 2 speedboats (21'). I have also acquired more aqualung tanks bringing the total number up to 14. Both of our compressors are functioning very well and most visitors are quick to take advantage of the unlimited free air. The diving equipment gets almost constant use.

Plans for the main laboratory are being finalized and if at all possible I would like to have it built before next December. The main laboratory will be 70 feet long by 18 feet wide and will have large verandas on all sides. It will be divided into 3 rooms, the wet lab, dry lab and library.

## RESEARCH FACILITIES

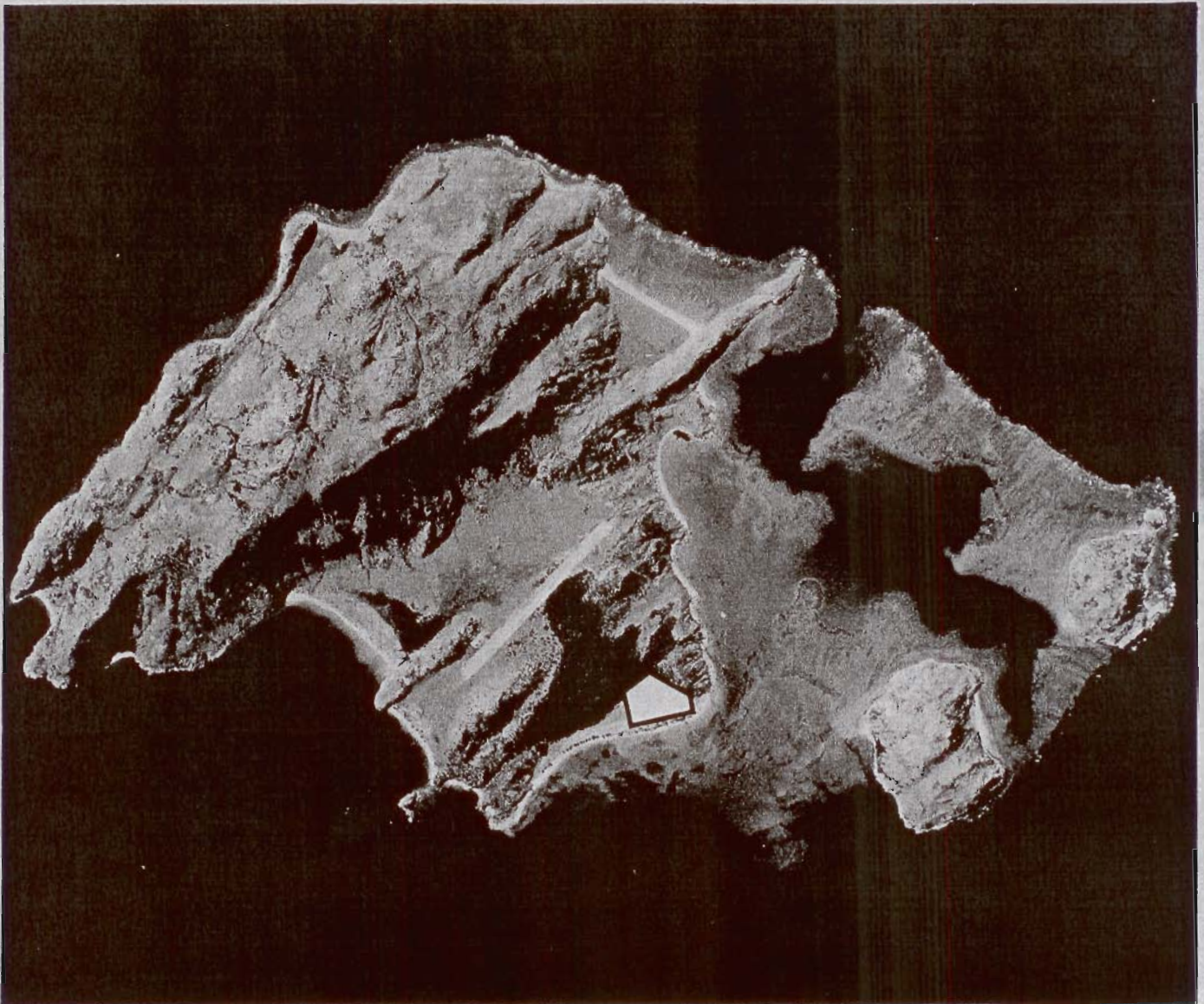
Below are listed some of the activities that took place on the station since December. Professor Specht of the University of Queensland is continuing the floristic study of the island, Dr Paul Ehrlich, the well-known American biologist, spent a week at the station with members from the Australian Museum studying Chaetodon behaviour, Dr M. Pichon of James Cook University spent 3 weeks at the station working on coral distribution at both Lizard Island and Yonge Reef (outer barrier), members from The Australian Museum have made basic collections of the molluscs and small fishes from around Lizard Island and fishes were collected from Yonge Reef, Mr D. Kinsey is preparing for a year long study of the oxygen levels in the lagoon and Dr R. Hudson from the University of Melbourne completed a preliminary study on the behaviour of a lagoonal goby.

To obtain information on bench fees, facilities or transportation, write to Mr S Domm, Resident Director, Lizard Island Research Station, P.O. Box 1474, Cairns, Queensland, 4870.

S. DOMM

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*The Lizard Island Research Station is managed by a Committee of Trustees for the Australian Museum.*



Scale: 1 inch = 1/2 mile.