

# Undersea record link to schools

ENVIRONMENT  
By BREANNA TUCKER

ALBURY aquanaut Lloyd Godson is inviting Border schools to work with researchers who are living in an underwater colony for 80 days.

The Atlantic Expedition is a team of people from all walks of life who are trying to break the world record by living under the sea for almost three months.

The team will be made up of former astronauts, NASA engineers, aquanauts, medical personnel, educators and film-makers including James Cameron, the Canadian producer who directed the film *Titanic*.

They will give 25 schools from across the world the chance to talk to the aquanauts, by either telephone or internet, as part of a class study.

Participating schools would have access to lesson plans, worksheets and information for several months leading up to the project.

Mr Godson said only three schools in Australia would be recruited for the program and he hoped to get at least one from the Border region on board.

"Students will be learning about the technology involved, sustainable living, renewable energy and about how living underwater is very similar to living in space," he said.

"The time demands should be minimal but the commitment is huge.

"It will all come down to the teacher and how passionate they are about working the unit into their classes."

Mr Godson said the Atlantic Expedition living quarters would be much bigger and more luxurious than the 3m by 2m metal box he lived in when he spent 12 days under water at Wonga Wetlands earlier this year.

Although not as big as a normal house, the underwater home would have all the normal creature comforts including leather recliner chairs and facilities for watching DVDs.

According to the website, Atlantic Expedition scientists hope to one day create a permanent undersea city for people and families to monitor the ocean.

Schools interested in the program can get involved by emailing Lloyd Godson on [lloyd@e-golive.com](mailto:lloyd@e-golive.com) or visit [undersea-colony.com](http://undersea-colony.com)



● Student Ben Moyle, his model BioSUB and Lloyd Godson at Wonga Wetlands.

Picture: MATTHEW SMITHWICK

## Teen joins role model on TV after model role

AN ABC film crew will shoot an episode of a children's television show featuring aquanaut Lloyd Godson and a Border year 8 student in Albury this week.

The crew from *Creature Features*, a show about animals, asked Mr Godson to feature in their Celebrity Pet section after he won several awards for living under water in a BioSUB at Wonga Wetlands earlier this year.

Mr Godson agreed and asked if James Fallon High School student Ben Moyle, 13, could join him on screen, after building a model of the BioSUB that scored 80 out of 85 in a school science project.

Producers were rapt with the idea and now they will be filmed at the Wonga Wetlands and at Ben's grandmother's house on Friday.

"Ben's family are actually old family friends of ours and I will be borrowing his grandmother's pets for the show next week," Godson said.

"The only pets I had under water were redfin fish and turtles and I think they would be a bit hard to catch, so Ben's grandmother will lend me her worms, chickens, cat and magpie instead."

Ben has already followed a large part of Mr Godson's journey.

He was there when the adventurer was lowered into the water, he talked to Mr Godson while he was under water and stood on the banks of the swamp when the exhausted scientist surfaced.

Soon after, Ben was given a copy of the BioSUB's plans so that he could make a 1:20 scale model of it for a science research project.

"I made most of it myself with balsa wood but dad had to help me do angle cutting with the electric saw," Ben said.

"I didn't think anything would come of it but then Gran told me the news.

"I haven't had time to think about it let alone tell my friends."

Mr Godson will spend the week scrubbing the BioSUB and refitting it with the equipment he used while under water.

The ABC crew arrive on Thursday night and will start filming at the crack of dawn before temperatures inside the BioSUB become unbearable.

They will capture Mr Godson doing everything from working in the BioSUB to scuba diving, kayaking and cruising in his Kombi van.

The episode should go to air in March next year.

— BREANNA TUCKER

## Rogue truckies should lose licence: Opposition

THE NSW Opposition has called for more police patrols and the automatic suspension of rogue truck drivers who avoid speed cameras by driving without lights.

Police have recorded 20 to 30 incidents involving truck drivers turning off their headlights, overhead and interior lights at night as they speed past the Safe-T-Cam speed cameras at the NSW-Victoria border checkpoint.

Two of three drivers caught within an hour on Tuesday night by Albury police were driving without lights at 100kmh in their 50-ton prime movers, police said.

NSW Opposition roads spokesman Andrew Fraser said cameras alone were not enough to guar-

antee safety on NSW roads.

"I'm calling on the NSW Government to send a strong message to these rogue truck drivers who recklessly flout the law and risk the safety of other motorists by travelling without their lights on — they must have their licences suspended on the spot," Mr Fraser said.

"There is no bigger deterrent to illegal behaviour on the roads than to put more police on patrol."

There were fewer highway patrol officers on NSW roads than in 1984.

"As thousands of families prepare to travel on NSW roads over this holiday season, the Iemma Government must do all it can to ensure motorists' safety and this means

boosting police highway patrol numbers."

But NSW Police Minister David Campbell claimed police were on top of the issue of catching rogue drivers.

"Safe-T-Cam is an important road safety tool and it is a disgrace that people would seek to avoid it," Mr Campbell said.

"But the good news is that police are cracking down, police are catching them and that means the police are out there doing what the community expects — seeking to enforce the road rules.

"My guess is it's a minority of drivers as always, a few doing the wrong thing."

Albury police said they would continue to patrol the highway to crack down on the practice.

LIMITED OFFER. BUY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS!

## The Border Mail CALENDAR 2008

Let your friends and family enjoy the Border from afar

Give them the gift that will last all year and rekindle fond memories with every passing month.

The *Border Mail* 2008 calendar is a stunning collection of images taken by our newspaper photographers capturing the very essence of life in Albury-Wodonga and surrounding towns.

Available from The Border Mail  
Wodonga: 1 McKoy St.  
Albury: Cnr Dean & Kiewa Sts.



To order by post send cheque for \$11.95 to The Border Mail, 1 McKoy St, Vic 3690

ONLY \$9.95  
Pay for 4 and get the 5th Calendar FREE

Ideal gift for Christmas

Now available from Wodonga Plaza Newsagency, Birallee Newsagency, Mahoney's Newsagency, Albury Newsagency, Lavington Newsagency