

**Media Release:**

**03.10.11**

## **Darwin Students Look Through the Lens at *SS Brisbane***

Darwin High School students stepped back in time today to journey on an expedition with Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) Heritage officers to visit the shipwreck of the *SS Brisbane*, located 40 kilometres from Darwin.

NRETAS Heritage officer David Steinberg said the Darwin High School students will visit at low tide in order to have the opportunity to closely examine and photograph the shipwreck, with their photographs to be entered into a national maritime heritage photography competition.

"I can think of no better location for shooting for a national maritime heritage photograph competition," Mr Steinberg said.

"Rich in Territory history, the site is a reminder of dramatic events in 1881 when the *SS Brisbane* was on its way from Hong Kong to Darwin and struck reefs north of Bynoe Harbour.

"As well as being rich in Territory history the site is has a striking appearance with broken ribs and scattered machinery that can be most easily seen at low tide."

The Darwin High School students will be encouraged to enter their photographs in the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA) 2011 shipwreck photography competition, with prizes that include charter diving opportunities.

Mr Steinberg said part of the students' curriculum will also include using this work to contribute to a local exhibition of significant maritime heritage of the Territory.

"It's important that the Territory's history is taught to Territory students and this expedition is a real, hand-on way that the students can learn firsthand about the *SS Brisbane*," Mr Steinberg said.

"This is important work for NRETAS' Heritage Branch that we'll continue in the New Year with a visit planned to Milingimbi to photograph important maritime heritage sites in early 2012."

For more information about the Territory's heritage, go to [www.lifestylent.nt.gov.au](http://www.lifestylent.nt.gov.au)

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**Media Note – for more information contact David Steinberg on 8999 5532.**

**Images:** 1. Darwin High School students photograph the *SS Brisbane* shipwreck.  
2. *SS Brisbane* shipwreck photographed by student Casey Gray.  
(credit Casey Gray)  
3. *SS Brisbane* shipwreck photographed by student Shekira Coonan.  
(credit Shekira Coonan)

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