

2017 Club news

February / March 2017

Our Guest speaker at our recent General Meeting was Matthew Albiez, District Officer with Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol. Matthew gave a very comprehensive and informative presentation to all members on a wide range of topics and issues.

Included was the need for EPIRB registration every 2 years and to check and maintain the EPIRB battery in good working order. Other subjects included checking the condition of Life Jackets, ensure that Flares are current and the opportunity to download the new Fisheries App at no cost.

Activities include our involvement with the Clean Up Australia Day Event on Sunday 5th March. Our members are working with other volunteer groups in Tin Can Bay and invite community members to join us on the day. Start time will be 8am in the park area near the Tin Can Bay Library.

Club members will be joining members of the Wondai Fishing Club on the 12th, 13th and 14th of March for a few days social, camping and fishing at Boondoomba Dam.

We are hosting a Sunfish Junior Fishing Day which will be held at Norman Point, Tin Can Bay on Saturday the 8th April. This is a free opportunity for Juniors from 7-14 years to learn fishing techniques from 3 qualified Sunfish Level 1 instructors.

There will be prizes, refreshments and a free BBQ for participants following the event. Numbers are limited and registering for this event is essential by phoning M 0437 242 171.

April 2017

Tin Can Bay Fishing Club members were recently hosted by the Wondai Fishing Club at Lake Boondooma where members enjoyed the camaraderie, friendship and lake fishing. Members caught a number of good sized Yellow Belly, Bass and Red Claw during the few days that we were there. We all enjoyed the friendly social and BBQ dinner served to our members by the Wondai Club.

On Saturday 8th April, the TCB Fishing Club is hosting the Sunfish Junior Fishing Day at Norman Point, and this is an excellent opportunity for Juniors from 7-15 years to learn fishing techniques and skills from 3 Sunfish Level 1 Instructors. Entry is free and there will be prizes for each junior, as well as refreshments, morning tea and a free BBQ lunch provided to all juniors and their parents. Numbers are very limited and to register for this event please phone the secretary on M 0437 242 171.

The Clean Up Australia Day event in Tin Can Bay was very successful with 79 persons of all ages joining in, showing that they cared and took pride in our local parklands and foreshores and wanted to help remove as much litter as possible.

We would like to thank all the clubs who joined us including QF 17 Coastguard Tin Can Bay, the TCB Girl Guides, C and K Tin Can Bay Kindy, TCB Lions Club, members of the TCB Fishing Club and all members of our community who participated in this important event.

We would also like to thank Elli Webb from the Gympie Regional Council who arranged and provided all the cold drinks and Sausages for the BBQ and we thank Woolworths, Cooloola Cove and the Lee Fishing Company for their generous support and contribution.

Our congratulations to Derek Andrews who was the winner of last month's Club Fishing Competition. Derek caught a 4.039 Kg Grassy Sweetlip.

May 2017

The Sunfish Junior Fishing Day that was held at Norman Point on the 8th April was a very successful day with 30 juniors and their parents attending. There were 2 qualified Sunfish Instructors who taught the juniors how to tie knots, rig rods and practise casting. After a big morning tea, they were taught to bait hooks followed by a short walk down to the beach area to catch fish. A few nice whiting were caught by the juniors and they had a lot of fun being involved despite the windy conditions. Everyone enjoyed the complimentary BBQ and after lunch, each junior was presented with a Certificate of Participation and a Rod, Reel and Tackle Box.

This successful outcome of the Sunfish Junior Fishing Day was due to the sponsorship and support provided to our club by Sunfish Queensland, Tin Can Bay Chandlery, Lee Fishing Company, the Gympie Regional Council and Soda Graphics.

With the passing of cyclone Debbie and the associated windy weather that followed, member's fishing activities were restricted but there were reports of good numbers of Mangrove Jacks being caught in the creeks. Summer whiting have been difficult to find in any numbers, good sized Flathead have been landed at Kauri Creek and good Bream catches have been reported in Snapper Creek. Squid have shown up early this year with reasonable catches reported in the North Carlo, Smoodger and Crab Creek areas. One of our members recently caught a 50 cm Bass whilst staying at Borumba Dam.

Subject to some favourable weather, club activities for May include:

- a day's fishing at Kauri Creek
- as well as beach fishing at Rainbow Beach.



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July 2017

Club members enjoyed fishing at Rainbow Beach recently during which there were good catches of Dart to 41cm as well as a few nice sized Bream. Several members also fished at Kauri Creek where members caught Whiting and Flathead but generally the fishing was slow.

The good news is that the squid are being caught in good numbers in most of the usual locations, mainly in the six to eight metre depth range.

Good numbers of sand crabs are being caught at the moment throughout the bay in two to three meters of water out of the main current and it has been a few years since the sand crabs have come into the bay in these numbers.

Tuna species can be seen regularly feeding on the baldish and are worth targeting by casting small metal lures. Diver whiting have been caught in reasonable numbers but you have to move around a bit to find where they are on the day.

The reef fishing inside the bay is fairly quiet at the moment but good numbers of reef fish have been reported on the outside reefs.

Large numbers of small to just legal sized bream have been seen in the shallows throughout the bay and may be worth targeting with yabbies or small strips of mullet.

The better quality fish caught in last month or so have been caught casting lures, some good quality flathead and golden trevally and a few legal cod have been caught.

As the water is very clear at the moment it is worth while driving around looking at the bottom terrain and observing what fish can be seen in different locations and situations and targeting types of fish in the areas where they are seen.

Winner of the Club's May Monthly Comp is Marcus Chapman with a 61 cm Flathead for 172 points. The Flatty was caught casting a lure in the shallows.

The club members were pleased to host the Tin Can Bay Girl Guides Association to a Fishing training morning at Tin Can Bay recently. There were 12 Girl Guides who attended the training day together with their Group Leaders. The training included general safety, knot tying, rigging a rod and casting. All guides enjoyed the training with excellent results achieved.

The Club's Cooloola Mitre 10 Raffle was drawn at the Tin Can Bay Country Club on the 9th June 2017.

- First Prize Winner of the \$900.00 Cooloola Mitre 10 Voucher was Stephen Smith of Cooloola Cove Ticket No 0834
- Second Prize of \$200.00 was won by Dave and Hope Wickmann of Kia-Ora Ticket No 0361
- Third Prize of \$100.00 the winner was Graham Parmenter of Cooloola Cove Ticket No 0956

We would like to thank Mark Denham and Cooloola Mitre 10 for the sponsorship of this Raffle and we thank all community members for their consistent support.

The club is very pleased to advise that they have arranged for the host of the ABC Gardening Australia program to visit Tin Can Bay on the 10th July.

Costa will be the guest speaker at the annual fundraising event for Sailability that will commence at 10am at the Cooloola Cove Vets and Community Hall. All proceeds are to assist Sailability.

Bookings are essential as seats are limited and please phone the Secretary M 0437 242 171 to reserve your seat.

September 2017

Members enjoyed a Lure workshop in Tin Can Bay during which members were advised about a range of Lures and the most effective way to use them for fishing in both inland and coastal waters. There was also the opportunity to learn how to cast bait net and members were given instructions on how to perfect the throw of the net. The workshop was run by members Marquis Chapman and Derek Andrews and was very informative and educational.

Fishing inside the bay is still fairly quiet at the moment but diver whiting have been caught in reasonable numbers but you have to move around to locate them on the day. Squid are being caught in most of the usual locations, mainly in depths of 6 to 8 metres.

There are a lot of school mackerel around at the moment but only the odd one is legal. School mackerel legal size is 50cm and be aware of how to correctly identify this species as only school mackerel are this length. Queenfish to 83cm have been caught by trolling ledges and drop-offs and best results are during the runout tide.

Winner of the club's July competition was Derek Andrews with a 57cm Sweetlip weighing 3.05kg. Members would like to thank the Tin Can Bay RSL for the very enjoyable morning tea and entertainment that was provided to the members of the community recently. Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to the next social.

All members of the TCB Fishing Club would like to thank and acknowledge the assistance provided by the Gympie Regional Council for the Facilities Funding Grant that we received recently. The funding provided an opportunity to install a 5kw Solar System to the Club's building at Tin Can Bay. This will greatly assist the club for offsetting all future power costs.

October 2017

The early summer weather and very dry conditions have resulted in variable fish catches around the region.

Members who have been fishing the Mary River at Gympie have been catching Bass, Saratoga and Yellow Belly and we have reports that Threadfin Salmon have been caught at Baffle Creek. There have been Whiting and Bream catches in the Tin Can Bay inlet and creeks as well as good sized summer whiting being landed in small numbers. There have also been small catches of Sweetlip, Flathead, Bonito and Flounder in the Sandy Straits and Bluff Reef areas.

We recently hosted the Wondai Amateur Fishing Club and members of both our clubs enjoyed a day's fishing with Baitrunner Fishing Charters resulting in a variety of fish including Parrot, Squire, Pearl Perch, Slatey Bream, Trag Jew and Cod. Everyone enjoyed the BBQ at the Tin Can Bay Tourist Park after the day's fishing and Cr Mark McDonald attended and welcomed all the Wondai Visitors to Tin Can Bay. Cr McDonald also spoke about the attractions that our area has to offer to visitors and gave an update on the proposed Tin Can Bay Jetty.



Winner of the Club's August Mini Fishing Competition was Marquis Chapman who caught a 45cm Yellow Belly in the Mary River.

We are looking forward to having Energex connect the Electricity to our building in Tin Can Bay in the coming weeks and we are very thankful for all the support and assistance that we have received from Mayor Mick Curran and the Gympie Regional Council. We would also like to acknowledge the consistent support we have received from Mr Tony Perrett MP, Member for Gympie and the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Fund that has made this a reality.

November 2017

The recent good rainfall should result in improved fishing in all areas as well as good catches of mud crabs. Species to target are both Diver and Sand Whiting, Bream and Flathead using yabbies as the preferred bait. With the arrival of warmer weather, it would be worth targeting Mangrove Jack in the creeks using mullet strips or live bait.

Members fishing the Mary River at Gympie report that catches of Bass, Yellowbelly and Saratoga have been consistent during the past few weeks.

The club is planning to hold two Sunfish Junior Fishing Days in Tin Can Bay in January 2018. These events are very popular and are strictly limited and we encourage all juniors to register when we advise applications for registration are available.

We have reached our goal of 100 members this year and we encourage family membership and involvement in all club events and social activities.