

January 2019



We are a very social club and get together often where everyone has a great time making new friends, enjoying fishing, sharing different techniques, finding the best spots for the many different species of fish in the Bay, gaining and sharing knowledge on the best rigs to use and learning the best times and tides.

Club fishing days include boat based fishing within the bay, beach fishing at Rainbow Beach, Inskip Point and outside day trips. Some of our trips away include stays at Borumba and Boondooma Dam where members catch Bass, Yellow Belly, Saratoga and Red Claw.

The weather hasn't been kind to the fisherfolk during the past few weeks with only a few windows of opportunity to take advantage of between the hot northerly winds and now the strong southerlies.

It is not all bad news however as quite a good number of fish captures have been made including Bass, Grunter, Whiting, Bream, Mangrove Jack, Trevally, Cod and a few other reef species so there are a few fish out there to be caught for those who put in the time and target specific species.

There are reports of quality diver whiting in good numbers in various places throughout the bay.

There are a few squid around and have been chasing diver whiting as they are being pulled up to the boat. The squid are being caught by targeting them with jigs in these areas.

Sharks and large green toad fish are in annoying numbers around the reef areas making it difficult to catch quality species.

Some large and as yet unidentified fish have been seen cruising the shallows throughout the bay so keep an eye out when you are near the shallows and drop offs.

A barramundi of 80 cm was seen in the shallows near Fraser Island recently but be aware if you happen to catch one it is currently closed season until 1st February except in some dams so be aware of the regulations.

We have many club events which include a monthly fishing competition. Some of our fishing trips include stays at Borumba and Boondooma Dam where members caught Bass, Yellow Belly, Saratoga and Red Claw. Club fishing days include boat based fishing within the bay, beach fishing at Rainbow Beach, Inskip Point and outside day trips.

Our club's Annual Presentation Day and Xmas Party was held on 17th November at the Cooloola Coast Bowls Club, Cooloola Cove.

And the winner were:

- TIN CAN BAY FISHING CLUB - PERPETUAL TROPHIES 2018
- An Engraved Trophy was presented with each Shield
- Furphy Award – Ross Goodhew
- Junior Champion – Josh Lucas
- Freshwater Champion, Female – Carol Slockee
- Freshwater Champion, Male – Marcus Chapman
- Outside Waters, Champion Female – Debbie George
- Inside Waters, Champion Female – Melissa Lockwood

- Outside Waters, Champion Male – Jim George
- Inside Waters, Champion Male – Ron Cox
- Best 4 Crabs – Ron Cox
- NEIL FINNEY MEMORIAL AWARD – Larry and Carol Slockee
- GRAHAM LEGGETT MEMORIAL AWARD “Encouragement Award for Juniors” – Lachlan Jensen

TIN CAN BAY FISHING CLUB - BIGGEST OF SPECIES AWARDS 2018

An Engraved Trophy was presented to each winner

- Biggest Bream – Mark Wotherspoon
- Biggest Whiting – Paul Moorhouse
- Biggest Mangrove Jack – Paul Moorhouse
- Biggest Red Emperor – Debbie George
- Biggest Snapper – Jim George
- Biggest Sweetlip – Jim George
- Biggest Tusk Fish – Jim George
- Biggest Trevally – Derek Andrews
- Biggest Cod – Ron Cox
- Biggest Slatey Bream – Ron Cox
- Biggest Flathead – Ron Cox
- Biggest Crab – Ron Cox

Members wish to thank the Gympie Regional Council and Mayor Mick Curran, Queensland Government Mr Tony Perrett MP and Federal Member for Wide Bay Mr Llew O’Brien MP plus our Sponsors and the local community for their ongoing support and assistance throughout 2018 and we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Safe 2019.

Why not come along and meet some of the members at the Tin Can Bay Markets on the 3rd Saturday of every month or attend a General Bi-Monthly Meeting at 4pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at our Club House – 33 Dolphin Ave, Tin Can Bay. BYO Nibbles and Drinks. All Members and Visitors are welcome. Ph: Secretary 0437 242-171.

February 2019

The Vice President of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club Ron Cox and club members extended a very big welcome to Mayor Mick Curran and Cr Mark McDonald to the Tin Can Bay Club house.

The Club Vice President Ron Cox thanked Mayor Curran and the Gympie Regional Council for the ongoing support and funding that has been provided to our club by the Facilities Grant programme. Club members also thanked the Mayor and conveyed their appreciation for having received a funding grant of \$2,500.00 from the Gympie Regional Council that was used to provide a concrete driveway and off road parking for persons with a disability. The new apron and driveway will also facilitate wheel chair access to the club building.

Ron Cox also mentioned “that the club members are very actively engaged in supporting our community and other community organisations.

The Executive Committee will be co-ordinating the Clean Up Australia Day Event in Tin Can Bay in March and will be also holding two Kids Junior Fishing training days which have been sponsored by Sunfish Queensland and the Gympie Regional Council.

Holding these community events is only made possible by the assistance that we receive from our valued sponsors and once again we thank the Gympie Council for their ongoing support”.

Mayor Mick Curran thanked the members for inviting both Mark McDonald and himself to this morning’s event. He mentioned that the club was very proactive in supporting a number of local volunteer groups and was held in high regard by the community. He further stated that giving and assisting other community groups is really essential in small communities and the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club excelled in this regard.

All present enjoyed a wonderful morning tea provided by the club’s ladies.



Mayor Mick Curran visits the Tin Can Bay Fishing on 8th February 2019

March

Club Visit by Mr Llew O’Brien MP Federal Member for Wide Bay

The President of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club, Jon Constable and members recently welcomed Mr Llew O’Brien MP and his wife Sharon during a visit to our club at Tin Can Bay.

The President mentioned that since Mr O’Brien was elected to the Australian Parliament in 2016, he has consistently supported our club and his assistance has enabled our club to grow. As a result, the assistance that our club provides to local community and community groups has also increased.

All our facilities, facility improvements and assets have been achieved with the support and assistance of Llew O’Brien and the Federal Government.

Recently, we were successful in the Federal Stronger Communities funding grant that has provided for the installation of a security system and cameras in both our buildings. Our club has also received a funding grant from the Department of Social Services for our community contribution and volunteering services.

Club members, members of the community and the Girl Guides group recently joined in the Clean Up Australia Day event in Tin Can Bay. It was a very successful clean up and all enjoyed the BBQ after the event.

The club is hosting the second Sunfish Junior Fishing Training Day on the 14th April 2019. These are very popular events and cater for 25 juniors at each event. We thank our sponsors, Sunfish Queensland, the Gympie Regional Council and the Chandlery Bait and Tackle at Tin Can Bay for their consistent and ongoing support and Gardiner Fisheries Bait and Tackle of Karoonda St, Rainbow Beach who supplied bait worms for the day. .

Our organisation is a member of the Cooloola Coast Disaster Management Support Group and our facilities and building is used as a co-ordinating and communication base during any local disaster or emergency.

Our group and members readily support other community and volunteer groups including Coastguard, Sailability and the Cooloola Coast Medical Transport Group.

As the Federal Member for Wide Bay, Mr O'Brien has provided commitment and strong representation and achieved results for the community, community groups and volunteer organisations in Wide Bay. He confirmed that a funding grant provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities for \$40,000.00 will be provided to the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club to help improve its facilities by purchasing equipment such as generators and extend the club house's utility to the wider community.

Mr O'Brien congratulated the President and his team for their excellent work in making the Club a vibrant piece of the Cooloola Coast's social fabric.

"The Liberal and National Government is committed to supporting local communities to prosper and grow and local infrastructure projects like this are critical if we want to boost economic growth and improve local amenities and facilities" Mr O'Brien said.

The President and club members all thanked Mr O'Brien for his support to all volunteer and community groups in our region.



Debbie George, New President Jon Constable, Llew O'Brien, Jim George

What a difference a month can make! The Mangrove Jack that were feeding so aggressively a month ago, during that really hot weather, have become elusive now the weather and water temperatures have begun to cool. The strong winds and less than friendly seas from the cyclone made fishing nearly impossible for more than a week giving an opportunity for a bit of boat and fishing gear maintenance. The Bream, Whiting and Flathead have been a bit hit and miss lately with only occasional decent catches. The Mud Crabs seem to be less active than they were but I guess that you can only catch and eat them once and the last few months has seen exceptionally good catches plus our holiday visitors also made a real hole in their numbers.

There are still a few early season squid around to be caught by those who are putting the time in to find where they are on the day. There have been moderate catches of reef species when the tide and wind allow fishing on the ledges and reefs. Quite a few Nannygai are being taken on the inside reefs lately but be aware of the legal sizes and bag limits. Large schools of good size Tuna have been seen actively feeding on the bait fish around the Inskip and Big Mick areas, this activity should increase as the weather cools. There seems to be increasing numbers of turtles not only in the deeper channels but also in the creeks so please be on the lookout while traveling as they can be difficult to see particularly if the water is a bit choppy.

Clean Up Australia Day: Thanks to all those who donated their time and energy to this activity and especially the Tin Can Bay Guides who joined with us this year and also enthusiastically participated in the free Sausage Sizzle at Norman Point when we finished. Well done girls.

Sunfish Kids Fishing Day: The 1st day on Sunday 31st March was booked out but at the time this was being written we still have a few spaces on the last one – Sunday April 14th.

The TCB Fishing Club's objectives include teaching our juniors how to fish, to have fun and to enjoy recreational fishing. We hold two Sunfish Kids Fishing Days each year and accommodate up to 25 juniors between 7-15 years of age at each of these events. These events are sponsored by Sunfish Queensland and run by qualified Sunfish Instructors from within the club and with assistance provided by TCB Fishing Club Blue Card Holder members.

These Days are provided at no cost to the participants and they are taught how to tie knots, rig a rod, baiting and casting and then fishing the tidal area at Norman Point. In addition to this, they are presented with a new rod and reel, a tackle box, and a Certificate of Attendance plus water, morning tea and a hearty BBQ lunch. Registration is essential as places are limited and at least one responsible adult is required to accompany their child throughout the entire activity.

Full details and Nomination Forms can be obtained by contacting the Secretary via email at tcbfishingclub@bigpond.com Nomination Forms must be completed and returned prior to the nomination being accepted.

Next General Meeting will be held at 4 pm on Wednesday 17th April at our Club House, 33 Dolphin Ave, Tin Can Bay. Contact the Secretary on M: 0437 242-171.

April

Tin Can Bay Fishing Club Honours Local MP

Local MP and member for Gympie Mr Tony Perrett accompanied by his wife Michelle was recently invited to attend a special morning tea in his honour to show appreciation for his unwavering support of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club over many years.

The event was held at the clubs premises and was well attended by members. New president Mr Jon Constable opened the proceedings by welcoming Mr Perrett.

Jon then invited all members and guests present to join him in putting their hands together to show their appreciation to Mr Perrett. Jon went on to say "Tony I would like to present to you, on behalf of the members of our club and our community, this certificate of appreciation, which I trust will convey just how important we consider to be, your representation and your support".



Local MP, and member for Gympie, Mr Tony Perrett and his wife Michelle

Sunfish Junior Fishing Days 2019

The Tin Can Bay Fishing Club hosted 2 Sunfish Junior Fishing Days recently at Norman Point, Tin Can Bay.

The first event was held on Sunday 31st March 2019 and 19 Kids participated in the event. The second event was held on Sunday 14th April 2019 and 25 Kids aged from 7-15 years participated in the event. The Club's 2 Sunfish qualified Level 3 Instructors were Desmond Quince and Derek Andrews who were assisted by 25 Club members at both events.

The events were held at Norman Point, Tin Can Bay and training commenced at 8am and finished at 1.30pm.

The juniors were taught knot tying, rigging a rod, casting and fishing and were guided and assisted by club members throughout the day.

A complimentary morning tea with refreshments, sandwiches, fruit, cakes and drinks were provided to the juniors and their parents. At lunch time, all present enjoyed a great BBQ lunch that was followed by fruit, watermelon slices and drinks which were provided to all juniors and their parents.

All juniors enjoyed the day and were keen to learn and become proficient in the various stages of training with the assistance provided by the instructors and members.

On completion of the training, each Junior received a Certificate of Participation, a new Rod and Reel, a Tackle Box and a \$10.00 voucher from the Chandlery Bait and Tackle Tin Can Bay.

The club has received many compliments from parents thanking Sunfish Queensland and the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club for the support, assistance and training provided to the juniors which made the event a wonderful and enjoyable experience.

The Tin Can Bay Fishing Club Executive Committee and members extend their appreciation and thanks to all our sponsors of the Kids Fishing days including Sunfish Queensland, the Gympie Regional Council, the Chandlery Bait and Tackle Tin Can Bay, and Gardiner Bait and Tackle at Rainbow Beach.



April

FISHING REPORT

As the weather is now transitioning from summer to winter the predominant summer fish species are becoming less common and hopefully the winter species will come on the chew. Bream and tailor and some say flathead should become more prevalent on the beaches and in the estuaries.

Although squid have been caught in good numbers they are not widespread at the moment and the small patches of them have to be located.

There are still a few quality Mangrove Jack, Summer Whiting and reef species being caught by the persistent anglers. Whenever there is a bit of fish catching activity on the reefy areas the underwater telegraph soon invites the large green Toad Fish and Shark tax men to the party for what seems more than their share. There are also a few School Mackerel and Tuna in the Inskip to The Bluff area. A large Queenfish was recently caught at Inskip and may be it wasn't a loner so keep an eye out for the bait fish patches and the pelagic fish might not be far away. There are a few quality mud crabs being caught and a few sand crabs have been potted recently.

Anyway let's blame the election on the fish being a bit apprehensive as who gets into power may determine the future fate of many of their numbers!!!

May

Llew O'Brien MP, Federal Member for Wide Bay accompanied by Chief of Staff Simon Kelly recently visited the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club.

President of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club, Jon Constable together with club members extended a very warm and friendly welcome to Mr Llew O'Brien.

The President thanked Mr Llew O'Brien for his support and the assistance provided by the Federal Government to our organisation and too many other volunteer and not for profit groups in our region.

Mr O'Brien presented the President with a Certificate from the Federal Government and congratulated the club members for a successful outcome in a funding application that was submitted to the Department of Social Services.

The funding received from the Federal Government was \$3,190.00 and will assist the club with facility improvements.



Image 1: Llew O'Brien with John Constable

Image 2: Llew O'Brien with: Jim George, Des Quince, Marylyn Smith, Milton Richter, Gretel Grabowski, Ernie Moore, Debbie George, Rod Andrews, Lyn, Llew O'Brien, Jon Constable, Gary Ogden, Mark Wotherspoon and Russel Love.

It doesn't happen very often in the quiet community of Tin Can Bay but unfortunately every now and then we hear of petty crime. This was true recently when young Seth Shaw and a few of his school mates decided to go fishing in the bay. They left a few of their belongings in what they felt was a safe place and proceeded to their fishing spot. "When I get back a little while later" tells Seth "I found that someone had gone through my bag and stolen some of my things including my tackle box". "They had even eaten his lunch"

But thanks to the generosity of Tin Can Bay Fishing Club members Jim George, John Fields and new president Jon Constable and owners of The Chandlery Tin Can Bay Chris and Emma Rippon young Seth is able to continue his passion for fishing. The fishing club members donated a new Shimano reel along with many other items, Emma from the Chandlery was on hand to present the teen with a brand new tackle box filled with loads of goodies including gift cards, hat and lures to name a few.



Seth's Presentation

June 2019

With the shortest day of the year approaching, we expect the winter species should be active and on the chew. Club members are looking forward to a few trips outside during the winter months with Keely Rose Fishing Charters with an opportunity to enjoy the experience and the fun.

There have been reports of bream being around in the bay in good numbers particularly around the dawn and dusk hours with most fish being only around the legal size with the odd one of a better quality. Bream are partial to the humble yabby and a few quality summer whiting have been a much welcomed bycatch while fishing for bream. Maybe the better quality bream could be caught at night on flesh baits or mullet or chicken gut.

Squid are being caught in good numbers and seem to be fairly wide spread throughout the bay. If you look closely when a squid is hooked and nearing the surface there are quite often others following it up and can also be caught if you are quick enough to unhook and get the jig back in the water. That's if you can see through the squid ink on your sunnies.

There have been a few quality golden trevally caught recently and the odd average tailor as well. School mackerel have been around in large numbers in some areas but mostly undersized so be aware of how to identify them and what the legal size is. If in doubt ask Mr GOOGLE .

A few flathead have been caught recently, mainly on soft plastics so try on the tops of the sand banks on the high tide or at the run off gutters at the last of the run out tide. The reefs in the bay have been a bit quiet lately with only the occasional quality fish amongst the tiddlers and toad fish. Winter whiting have been caught in good numbers and quality by those who know where and when to go so give them a try using some of that fresh squid cut in small strips put on a long shank hook.

There are a few sand crabs being caught at the moment and the occasional mud crab as well so it may be worth putting the pots in.

New members are very welcome and for enquiries, please [Contact Us](#) for more information.

July

Members of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club recently enjoyed a day's fishing offshore with Keely Rose Fishing Charters. The weather conditions were excellent and members were looking forward to catching a few nice fish. For many, this is their favourite time of year for fishing the Cooloola Coast.

The recent showery and windy weather has curtailed fishing activities lately but when the opportunity arises to get out on the water there are a number of piscatorial species to be had.

There have been reports of bream being around in the bay in good numbers particularly around the dawn and dusk hours with most fish being only around the legal size with the odd one of a better quality. It is interesting to note that most of the bream including the ones just over legal size are heavily in roe at the moment and may be preparing to spawn around the full moon period so let's hope most of them are able to complete their reproductive cycle without too much interference.

Squid are being caught in good numbers and seem to be fairly wide spread throughout the bay. The predominant breed of squid which is caught here is believed to have a life cycle of less than a year and this info and video footage of the life cycle of squid can be found on the web showing that they can be prolific breeders.

Cuttlefish and the occasional tiger squid which can grow to a fairly large size are caught while traditional squid fishing. The large tiger squid can occasionally be seen up in the shallows but are easy to spook and difficult to catch, some info is available on the net about tiger squid fishing in Moreton Bay so also should work here.

Cleaning squid and cuttlefish can be a dirty job and one way to minimize the ink problem is to remove the wings from the squid put the squid in a small mesh scaler bag and tow them behind the boat for about five minutes and this gets rid of most ink.

There have been a few quality golden trevally and queen fish caught recently on trolled lures and cast hard body lures and various soft plastics so keep an eye out for bait fish activity which could attract the predators and target these areas.

A few flathead have been caught recently, mainly on soft plastics so try on the tops of the sand banks on the high tide or at the run off gutters at the last of the run out tide. As the water is fairly clear at the moment it may be a good idea to motor around slowly in the shallows to find where the various fish types may be feeding and keep an eye out for those large tiger squid. There have been a few quality summer whiting caught recently with the biggest measuring over 41 cm. These fish can be caught on yabbies or worms up in the shallows on high tides and at night time around the full moon high tides so brave the cool weather and go and bend a rod.

Enjoy the season, enjoy fishing our waters and be ever mindful of sustainability of our fish stocks. For membership enquiries see our Membership page [see our Membership page here](#).

August - September 2019

Traditionally during the winter months, reef fish in the bay have been fairly quiet with only the occasional quality fish including a cod of over 13 kg being caught. There have been reports of just under size snapper being caught on the ledges and reef areas so be aware of the size and bag limits.

Squid are still being caught in good numbers and seem to be widespread throughout the bay. The average size seems to be increasing possibly because they are reaching the peak of their life cycle. Large green toad fish have been crunching a few squid jigs lately so make sure you have a few spares of your favourite colour with you.

There have been reports of bream being caught in the bay and on the beach with a few quality fish amongst them and are a worthwhile target species particularly around the full moon period around dusk and dawn if you are willing to brave the cold. A few quality summer whiting have been caught in the shallows on the rising to high tide recently by those targeting them with yabbies. With both patience and persistence both whiting and bream can be caught in the shallows on small surface and minnow type lures so ask the local tackle store for advice on specific types of lures.

The recent weather event with cold blustery winds that swept across southern states and into south Queensland has somewhat curtailed fishing activities lately for all but the most avid anglers but when the opportunity arises to get out on the water there have been a few quality fish landed.

There have been a few queen fish caught recently on trolled lures and cast hard body lures and surface lures so keep an eye out for bait fish activity which could attract the predators and target these areas. Flathead have been a bit elusive lately with only a few being caught on soft plastics. Their prints have been seen on the exposed sand banks when the tide is out so maybe they are feeding in the shallows on the night time high tides so they could be worth targeting on the early morning high tide before they go off the sand banks to wherever they hide in the daytime.

A few Tailor and a couple of jewfish have been caught off the beach recently so that could be worth a try on the dusk high tides.

In summary there are a few fish of different species around and the only way to catch them is to have a line in the water so give it a try when time and tide permit and the rewards may come.

October 2019

Club members and visitors recently enjoyed an outing with Keely Rose Fishing Charters in the waters East of Fraser Island and Double Island Point. All enjoyed a great day out and fish caught included Sweetlip, Parrot, Moses Perch, Trevally, Cobia and one of our visitors landed a prized Coral Trout. We thank the Keely Rose crew, Edd and Harry for looking after everyone on the day out.

An early bout of warm spring weather has resulted in some good catches of Giant and Golden Trevally in the Tin Can Bay Inlet and the surrounding waters from Snapper Creek to Inskip Point.

During October, good numbers of Tailor and Dart have appeared along Inskip Point and off Fraser Island and best results have been obtained using Pilchards, Metal Lures and Squid.

In the TCB Inlet and inside waters, there have been some nice sized whiting caught near the banks around Alligator and Kauri Creek and the best results have been obtained using live beach worms and yabbies.

There have also been some good quality Flathead and Tailor caught using pilchards with gang hooks near Carlo Point and Kauri Creek.

Mangrove Jack and large Slatey Bream are also being landed and the best results have been obtained using live baits and casting against structure in the creeks and around the mangroves.

An information and Club social day was recently held at the Clubhouse during which members received information on best rigs and baits to use in the inside waters. There were 41 members present who enjoyed the fun and the chance to win some great raffle prizes. The Club would like to thank Emma and Chris from the Tin Can Bay Chandlery for their continued sponsorship and support that they provide to our club and for helping to make the day a very successful and enjoyable one for all present.



Image 1: Cobia caught on the Keely Rose Charter



Image 2: Coral Trout caught on the Keely Rose Charter

November 2019

The Tin Can Bay Fishing Club Executive Committee and members extended a very big welcome to Mr Llew O'Brien MP during his recent visit to our club.

The occasion was to celebrate a funding grant received from the Australian Government for \$40,000 that will be used to improve and upgrade the Club's building and facilities for its 127 members and will include landscaping and garden improvements.

The funding was made available under the Federal Community Development Grants Programme which is administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development

Club President, Jon Constable thanked Mr Llew O'Brien MP, Member for Wide Bay for the consistent support that he provides to our organisation, as well as assisting our local community and other community volunteer groups. Jon also asked Mr O'Brien to pass on our thanks and appreciation to the Deputy Prime Minister Mr Michael McCormack MP and the Australian Government for the assistance that has been provided to our organisation

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, 16th October during which the financial report was delivered to members. Club members have elected Jon Constable as President together with the new Executive and Committee for 2019-2020. The club now has 126 members and is enjoying steady growth.

Members have recently reported small numbers of Summer Whiting have been taken at Kauri Creek and in parts of the Tin Can Bay Inlet. Best results have been obtained when fishing the shallows on a rising tide

and using Yabbies. There have been some good catches of Flathead in the Tin Can Bay Inlet as well as Teebah and Kauri Creek. Fishing early mornings during the runout tide have produced the best results.

The weather has limited the opportunities for beach fishing last month and small catches of Tailor and Whiting have been taken at Inskip Point during the run out. With the weather warming up, Mangrove Jack will be appearing in the Creeks and amongst the Mangroves soon.



Image 1: Llew O'Brien MP and President Jon Constable during the recent visit.

Image 2: Llew O'Brien MP with President Jon Constable and Jim George during recent visit.

December 2019

It has been a year of great joy and of heart-wrenching sadness, of that there is no doubt, but through it all we have stuck together like family. It is however important to remember that all the benefits that we as a Club enjoy are realised through the volunteering efforts of everyday people. They give of their valuable time and resources so that you our Members and the Community at large can enjoy a better more fulfilling life.

The Club held our Annual Awards Presentation Day and Christmas Party at the Tin Can Bay Country Club on Saturday November 30th and all 65 attendees had a very enjoyable afternoon.

A big thank you to all who set up the decorations and put nibblies on the tables. Thank you to Lyn Minchell, our photographer for the day, who has made photos available to anyone who wishes a copy. The photos are also posted on our Facebook page. Ron Cox ably handled the Presentation Ceremony, while adding a little colour to the day with his anecdotes and stories. Last but by no means least; to those who toiled in their home kitchens, making a veritable smorgasbord of unimagably wonderful desserts.

Our Special Thanks for their attendance and ongoing support goes to Mayor Mick Curran and his wife Sue plus Councillor Mark McDonald and Tony and Dianne Heiduk and to our many Supporters and Sponsors who assisted with prizes on the day, namely Chandlery Bait & Tackle Tin Can Bay, Harvey Norman Gympie, BCF Gympie, Cooloola Mitre 10, Bunnings Gympie and Woolworths Cooloola Cove.

Congratulations to all the winners on their well-deserved awards: see the list of recipients below.

TIN CAN BAY FISHING CLUB - PERPETUAL TROPHIES 2019

- A Certificate and redeemable Voucher was presented with each Shield
- Freshwater Champion, Female: Carol Slockee
- Freshwater Champion, Male: Marcus Chapman
- Outside Waters, Champion Female: Lyn Minchell
- Outside Waters, Champion Male: Ron Cox
- Inside Waters, Champion Female: Carol Punch
- Inside Waters, Champion Male: Ron Cox
- Best 4 Crabs: Marquis Chapman
- NEIL FINNEY MEMORIAL AWARD: Marilyn Smith
- GRAHAM LEGGETT MEMORIAL AWARD "Encouragement Award for Juniors": Seth Shaw and Zac Shaw
- Furphy Award: ` Garry (Chook) Ogden

TIN CAN BAY FISHING CLUB - BIGGEST OF SPECIES AWARDS 2019

A Certificate and redeemable Voucher was presented to each winner

- Biggest Bream: Mark Wotherspoon
- Biggest Whiting: Tony Punch
- Biggest Mangrove Jack: Shane Slockee
- Biggest Red Emperor: Lyn Minchell
- Biggest Snapper: Ron Cox
- Biggest Sweetlip (Grass) Ron Cox
- Biggest Tusk Fish: Derek Andrews
- Biggest Trevally: Ron Cox
- Biggest Nannygai Derek Andrews
- Biggest Cod: Ron Cox
- Biggest Slatey Bream: Jon Constable
- Biggest Flathead: Derek Andrews
- Biggest Crab: Marquis Chapman

The hot northerly winds have made life a bit uncomfortable recently but those who have braved the weather and gone out fishing early in the mornings or on dusk have been rewarded with good catches of quality mangrove jack. Fishing the incoming tide seems to be getting the best results using flesh or live baits. There have been a few Grunter caught recently and the numbers seem to be increasing and their places of capture seem to be widespread indicating that the numbers in the local area are greater than they have been in recent years. Grunter can be caught on various baits and one of their favourite snacks is large peeled green prawns plus lure fishing with a variety of soft plastics can be rewarding.

The reef areas and the ledges have been producing reasonable numbers of quality fish including Grass Sweetlip, Nannygai, Slatey bream and Tusk fish. Fishing these areas on the neap tides seems to be more successful giving more time to find the fish in the time of slack water between the periods of tidal run. The grey overcoats have been taxing a few and there are a few leopard sharks being a bit of a pest but good to have a look at as well as testing your gear.

Whiting and flathead seem to have become elusive lately but it could be that other species are being targeted while the opportunity is there. There have been a few mud crabs caught recently but they are a bit hit and miss.

The water is fairly clear at the moment, so it is interesting to slowly motor around in the shallows on the high tide slack water period spotting the surprising variety and numbers of critters that inhabit the area.

All the members of the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club wish everyone a Safe and Happy New Year.



Image 1: Margie accepting the Mark Wotherspoon Memorial Award on behalf of her husband Mark Wotherspoon who recently passed away.

Image 2: Marquis Chapman receiving his Champion Award from Club President and Mayor Mick Curran