



## DISCOVERY COAST NEWSLETTER NO 2

To start my second newsletter, I would like to wish all the fishing fraternity a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2019. May your rods always be bent?

It's time I put pen to paper to let you know how we are progressing with the 36<sup>th</sup> National Championships. Last time I dealt with the fishing program and nothing has changed with that, and I hope nothing does, unless there is something at the midterm meeting that the delegates might not like.

Speaking about the midterm meeting, for all those delegates who are going to attend, we will hold this meeting in the function room at Sandcastles Motel Resort on Friday, September 6, 2019, and we intend showing the delegates the fishing areas on Thursday, 5 September. We would like to work from Sandcastles as our centre point. The resort has plenty of accommodation and it is only 400 metres from the centre of town and a little further to the tavern. It's impossible to get lost in 1770 or Agnes Water.

The reason we have chosen this date is that we will be starting our weeklong state titles on Saturday, September 7, 2019, with a meeting followed by a welcome evening. All competitions are the same times as AAA. Everyone is welcome to attend. Below is the 2019 State Titles program -

Sunday 8: Day 2 - Something only Queenslanders do - fishing from the bank in estuarine conditions and it's called Light Gear.

Monday 9: Day 3 – Offshore

Tuesday 10: Day 4 – Casting

Wednesday 11: Day 5 – Freshwater, wherever you want to fish, either at Lake Awoonga or Lake Monduran. Both lakes are at least 100 km away.

Thursday 12: Day 6 – Boat Estuary

Friday 13: Day 7 – Rock and Beach

Saturday 14: Day 8 – Presentation 12.30 pm and lunch; visitors welcome.

It would be great if we could encompass the whole of what the Discovery Coast has to offer, but we have had to leave some of it out because of time restraints. Seventeen Seventy and Agnes Water, nestled between two national parks and hugging the sub-tropical coastline, are the closest mainland point to the southern Barrier Reef .

Escape the crowds and slip back in time to a place where traffic lights are non-existent and the hardest decision of the day is which pristine golden beach to explore next. Watch the sunset over the Coral Sea - truly a unique experience on the east coast of Australia. Explore the area where Lieutenant James Cook made his second landing in Australia.

A little bit of history to start us off: Lieutenant James Cook (later to become Captain) arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1770, intent on surveying the land and seeking fresh water. Accompanying him was Joseph Banks and Dr Solander who collected samples of the unique flora and fauna previously unseen by Englishmen. Anchoring the Endeavour two miles offshore, Cook's second landing in Australia and his first in Queensland, hence 1770 being referred to as the birthplace of Queensland.

Cook and his party landed in the southern half of the bay, “in a place where there was room for a few ships to lay in great security, and a small stream of fresh water,” Cook wrote. Upon the shore, they shot a species of Bustard that weighed seventeen and a half pound dressed, going down in the log of the boat as “the best bird they had eaten since leaving England”. It was in honour of this feed, they called the inlet Bustard Bay and the headland Bustard Head. Visit the Discovery Coast Museum to get the full story.

If you have time, take a trip out to Lady Musgrave Island located on a coral-fringed lagoon measuring 8 km in circumference. You can see all the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef here; day trips leave the 1770 boat harbour daily and offer all sorts of activities.

We had a meeting with two lovely ladies from the Discovery Coast Sport and Recreation Club and they are only too happy to have us use their facilities as the headquarters for the titles. It’s a little bit out of the way, but what it loses there, is made up by the friendship of the people around you. Where possible, we will hold everything there as it provides plenty of room and ample parking.

I have given you the fishing program, so here is the suggested social program to date -

August 19, Wednesday – Day 1	9.00 am Registration at headquarters 1.00pm Captains meeting at headquarters 5.00 pm Registration close
August 20, Thursday – Day 2	9.00 am Registration at headquarters 12.00 noon Registration close Civic Reception - details to be advised 4.00 pm Opening ceremony and Flag raising at Headquarters 5.00 pm Welcome Evening at Headquarters
August 21, Friday – Day 3	9.00 am Morning tea and fashion parade
August 22, Saturday – Day 4	7.00 pm Social Evening to be at hotel if possible Games and meal- Prizes for the winners
August 23, Sunday – Day 5 LAY DAY	9.00 am AAA Annual Meeting – Venue yet to be decided Good opportunity for the non-fisher folk to look at museum and Agnes Water distillery
August 24, Monday – Day 6	Craft at HQ
August 25, Tuesday – Day 7	Quiz Day
August 26, Wednesday – Day 8	Barefoot Bowls ?? 7.00 pm Bigger than the Melbourne Cup - the Discovery Coast Goldfish Races
August 27, Thursday – Day 9 LAY DAY	8.30 am - Something you just can’t miss: a trip on the LARC around Bustard Bay and up to Bustard Head Lighthouse; morning tea and lunch provided! Bustard Head lighthouse is a must see. It was Queensland’s first coastal lighthouse, has spectacular panoramic views, and a tragic history. This island light station is listed on the register

for the national estate. It has been restored and turned into an interpretative museum.

August 28, Friday – Day 10	Craft at HQ
August 29, Saturday – Day 11	Possible South Australia Night
August 30, Sunday – Day 12 LAY DAY	8.00 am Saved the best till last - take a bus from the Discovery coast to the Bundaberg Rum Distillery and then on to the macadamia factory.
August 31, Monday – Day 13	Farewell morning tea; packing ready to return home???
September 1, Tuesday – Day 14	9:00 am Convention meeting and minor presentation of trophies at Discovery Coast Sports and Recreation Club 4:00pm Presentation Dinner at Agnes Water Community Centre
September 2, Wednesday – Day 15	BON VOYAGE and SAFE JOURNEY HOME!!

This program is not yet set in stone and still needs some refinement, but rest assured the non-fisher folk will be well catered for.

- Does anybody have any problems with accommodation? It may be a little early as they normally book just 12 months ahead. The Sandcastles Resort has a variety of accommodation types, including room for boats and cars, and they have offered a 10% discount to those staying more than 1 week and further discounts for longer stays – the longer you stay, the more you save!
- Agnes Water/ 1770 Bait and Tackle outlet will be offering a 10% discount to those who present their registration tag when making purchases.
- Charter boats – have we made contact with these? If so, are there any problems?
- Is there anything that I can help anyone with for the titles?

Well I know we are going to have a great carnival. So far I have received just 4 nominations (2 from SA and 2 from NSW); with Pam and I, that makes 6. I don't know what all this planning is about, as with only 6 of us attending, we can go out for dinner every night and off to the pub every day, and we won't spend anywhere near the money we usually spend at a carnival.

Now I know there will be a lot of people coming, so below is the Intention to Attend Form for you to complete and return to me via email – [qafca@bigpond.net.au](mailto:qafca@bigpond.net.au)

NO nomination fees yet, please – just names, so we can keep you informed, and pass this newsletter on to anyone else you think might be interested.



**Intention to Attend Form**

**Australian Anglers Association 36<sup>th</sup> National Angling  
Championships and Convention  
on the Discovery Coast  
August 19 to September 2, 2020**

Anglers may register in **one** of the following six sections.

Men	Ladies	Juniors (under 17)
Veteran Men	Veteran Ladies	Social

Please indicate your intention to attend by completing the form below and forwarding to [gafca@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gafca@bigpond.net.au) or post to - QAFCA Inc, P O Box 3178, West Ipswich, Qld, 4305

Name :		
Street :		
Town :	State :	Postcode :
Home Phone :	Mobile Phone :	
Email :		

**Please tick appropriate category**

Name	Men \$65	Ladies \$65	Veteran Men \$65	Veteran Ladies \$65	Juniors \$35	Social \$35	Amount
<b>\$5.00 DISCOUNT if paid before 1<sup>st</sup> JULY, 2020</b>							
<b>TOTAL payable</b>							

Juniors must be under **17 years of age** before the start of the carnival, while Veteran Men and Veteran Ladies must have reached **the age of 60** on or before the start of the carnival.