



AFAQ

Amateur Fishermen's Association of Queensland Inc.



Newsletter No. 333

"IN OUR SECOND 100 YEARS"

October 2008

President's Report...

Website: www.afaq.org.au

SEPTEMBER 2008

Due to time constraints only a very brief report this month.

Thanks to Ricky for filling his role as Vice President and chairing the meeting in my absence last month. I hear all went well. Watch it Ricky, might have to give you a permanent job.

Please take the initiative and send your subs to the treasurer without him having to send out reminders. This extra paper work involved is costly not to mention the extra time. Seniors \$60 and Juniors \$12.

At time of print it appears that the erosion at front of Cottage has slowed down. The sand bags placed along the groyne by Council seems to have done the job. Early days but we will keep a close watch on the issue.

The Bribie Museum is progressing with Council very keen to accept our specimens and any other memorabilia on our terms. Mr Richard Barbrowski, from Moreton Bay Council, at this stage, will attend our November meeting to address members and answer any questions.

Reports from locals indicate that the summer whiting on Bribie are in good numbers. Mainly around Red Beach to Skirmish Point with the surf beach also performing well.

Take advantage of the Cottage, stay a night or two, and get into these quality fish.

G Goodall
President.

AFAQ Junior Education Program

Thanks to Ricky for a great presentation on Charts Beacons and Navigation. The next presentation is by Patrick McShane on "How to throw a cast net".

Fishing Comp Calendar The next comp is at Somerset on 11 & 12 October and a cottage has been booked. Contact Ricky for information.

Christmas Raffle

The 2008 Christmas raffle this year is a \$300 voucher for Bunnings Warehouse or BCF as first prize, and second prize is a \$100 voucher. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas party.

Bunnings Hardware - Sausage Sizzle

The sausage sizzle fund raiser at Bunnings Hardware at Lawnton are all basically the 3rd Saturday of each month.

18 Oct, 15 Nov, and 13 Dec.

Jim Cassidy will be considered for Honorary membership during the October general meeting.

Next Meeting The next general meeting will be held at 9:00am **4 October** at the cottage followed by lunch.

The **Fraser A team trip report** is attached, thanks Greg. It's been a long time coming, can we believe it ?we may need to view the video evidence. ☺

Cottage

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Fraser Island "A" Team Sat 30th August to Sat 6th Sept 2008

Noel, Neville, Greg H, Willo (from Southport AFC), Merv, G Dowd, Ian V, Mike Firman
Staying at Marloo Court, "On the Hill" above Orchid Beach

Friday

The Crew gathered at the Rainbow Sands Motel as is our custom around 4 pm, Dowdie, Ian and Mike already in residence. In fact, Ian and Mike were already in the Sporting Club ensuring that the beer was cold and the Pokies were HOT and Dowdie, well, Members, we can bring him out – he is closet fan of the afternoon TV Soapies. We all ended up at the Club around 6.00pm (after the total confusion over the sleeping arrangements was sorted out). We had a few introductory beers, played the pokies, and jointly won two monster meat trays, a second prize meat tray and two bottles of wine. Not too popular with the locals, they only had three raffles and we cleaned them out. With our food supplies already in place and considered to be generous for the week, we really needed more meat like a hole in the head. The wine, of course, was welcome. This is the third time this has happened - why aren't we so lucky with raffles in other places? We proceeded to the restaurant and had the usual high quality meal, with Neville and Noel releasing the moths from the wallets and purchasing some bottles of excellent red to compliment the meal, Dowdie had the usual rose instead.

Saturday

A later start today due to the early high tide. There was time for a leisurely breakfast, chatting to the locals, collecting and packing the meat trays, re fuelling, permits etc and down to the Barges around 11.00 am. Confusion reigned supreme on the Barges, Noel lost sight of the other 2 cars when they went to get the meat trays and he went over on an earlier barge and Dowdie thought he saw Noel's car on the White Barge and went on it although he had a ticket for the Green One. Eventually we all got to the Island and were presented with our Fraser Island "A" team T Shirt, mostly large sizes for this group. A good run around Hook Point and up the beach, nice hard sand all the way, and moved directly into our home for the week. We have stayed here before, nice well appointed place, up high on the Hill with views from the Cape right down to Waddy Pt, excellent for whale watching from the balcony, with the first viewing virtually straight away. Greg and Willo went down the beach to check out the fishing and, came back with grim news - no real gutters and structures, beach looks terrible and we may have to fish south of Indian Head where we have reports of fish each afternoon. That track behind Indian Head and Middle Rocks is soft and chopped up and not a pleasing prospect for a trip each day. Around 4.30pm, Noel and Neville decided to also go and have a fish - settled in to an old spot up Waddy end, just outside the exclusion zone. A few fishermen fishing for dart, Neville's eyes lit up and away he went, one after another. Noel resisted the temptation to fish for dart, and kept a pilly in the water, fishing from his collapsible chair. Around 5.15 pm a hit and the first tailor of the trip, followed by another with the next cast. Neville quickly abandoned the dart fishing and rigged for tailor. In all 9 tailor and many dart in the bucket before it got washed over by a freak wave. With a mammoth recovery effort, which was pretty to watch, Neville managed to salvage 6 tailor and 2 dart from the tragedy. (Editor's note – they couldn't have made this up could they?). This action had a double effect - we had tailor for a first night feed on Sat night and it convinced us to go there on Sunday morning rather than head south of the Indian.

Sunday

Good result, 92 fish in the morning. Greg called for an audit – someone's not pulling their weight, (count fillets and divide by 2) the count 184 fillets = 92 fish. Noel contributed another 2 fish, caught from the chair, now a total of 5 this trip which equals his total catch for last year. A quiet day in anticipation of the night's fish, Whales very active, breaching and flapping all day. A night group total of 46 fish and better average class with Noel setting a new Fraser record of 8 from the chair. All this tailor meant another fish feed tonight, with chips and salsa, followed by ice cream and Neville's homemade cumquat liquor helped along by the odd nice wine, beers and a demolition of a 12 YO Chivas Regal from Noel. (The Stanthorpe liqueur Muscat was not as well accepted). All slept well that night . Dowdie back on his Rose, and had an early night.

Monday

All up reasonably early, working on the time the fish were there yesterday they should come on the chew around 8.00am. Wrong - When we arrived, there were a few more vehicles, the area had been partly discovered, and quite a few tails sticking out of buckets and guys cleaning. Our effort, Merv (2) Dowdie (1) Willo (1) - 4 fish in all -Bad timing calculation. On Monday night, only one group decided to fish, Willo, Greg, Ian and Neville, going down at 5.30pm. They arrived home at 8.15 wet, battered and torn, 78 fish, with the quality the best yet, many break ups, lots of gear lost and sore hands. Steak and

chops with vegies tonight, with the remainder of Neville's cumquat liqueur, and ice cream this time supplemented by plums and custard. More good wines, balance of the chivas, and a start made on Neville's Wild Turkey.

Progressive tailor catch 225 - this brings the bag limit of 240 (8 times 30) to take home into discussion.

Tuesday

Willo arranged for a flyover of an F111 today – one of his Sons flies them, unfortunately this was cancelled at the last moment by RAAF due to a “fuel restriction”. Whilst the troops went on their expedition to fillet last night's catch, Merv and Noel decided to haunt the gutter for another session. One and a half hours, half a pilly lost, other fishermen down beach catching (and targeting) dart. Merv got a serious flathead 2.25 kilos (69 CM). Another small crew for the night fish- Willo, Ian and Neville. Good quality again and including Neville's attempt at the Fraser Shield – 52cm and exactly 1kg. In all, the next day we filleted 12 fish over 48cm and 42 in total. Tonight is seafood feast night – Merv's entrees, Heaps of Tailor Fillets in Beer Batter and Greg's famous Spagetti Marinara. Another night where the body is well fed but sore from success, and the snoring incessant!!

Wednesday

After our usual ritual of cleaning the night's catch, Noel and Neville depart for the Mainland at 11.30am with their esky holding 60 fillets each - the bag limit. Greg is elevated from the garage and takes over the “Master Bedroom”. A quiet day really with the vehicles and gear getting some needed attention. Decision made late in the day by Willo and Greg to go down one more time to use up the last small bag of bait. Now we have to eat 2 more feeds at least to get the numbers down to cover the bag limit. Supposedly rib fillet steak for tea tonight with leftover Spagetti – Merv calls on 40 years experience as a butcher and declares the meat “old Cow”, and it sure takes some chewing. Looks like Noel got caught again. We decide to go back to Merv in charge of the meat next year.

Thursday

Crook weather day – at least it was not as bad as last year when just about the whole trip was above 25 knots and rain. The sea is up. “A day on the drink” as they say – no fishing due to inclement weather. Neighbours came back after dark with reasonable catch, they got the leftover spaghetti (no 3rd attempt by us). Dowdie early start on the Rose meant an early finish - in bed as dark descended.

Friday

Slow to start for obvious reasons. Greg and Dowdie book house for next year, some attempts at a trip up to North Ngkala rocks, least said the better eh Dowdie? Bit of a fish for a dart in the afternoon, followed by a bit of basic R &R – looking at the Ocean over a beer and thinking of the trip home and return to Australia. Big clean up and pack up ready for early start. Ian cooks a bloody good lamb stew for tea. A general clean out of the drink fridge as well, finalization of Neville's Wild Turkey etc etc.

Saturday

Out of bed at 5am and the cleanup continues. The combination of the number of feeds of tailor and the meat trays won at Rainbow meant that the meat supply was barely touched. We depart at 6.15am to get the tide. Sea has gone down noticeably and no trouble getting down from the top end and around Hook Point. Perfect timing for Greg as the Green Barge arrives just as he does. Through the mix up on the way over Dowdie is on the other Barge and has a 15 minute wait – some of us has it and some of us don't. Quick re-fuel and pie at Rainbow and trouble free trip back. In all we would have to say the best year for fish in about 10.

Note – Ian Venning has a video of all the main points – just in case verification is requested.

