

TIN CAN BAY SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

The invitation to participate in the Tin Can Bay Seafood Festival was a surprise to the Branch. However it is believed that this stemmed from profile developed during the discussions in the Community regarding the proposed Biro-Regional Area off Fraser Island. This is in direct contrast to the Hervey Bay Seafood Festival where despite applications for a site in the last 2 years they failed to respond.

The festival organised by the TCB Chamber of Commerce was a great success .The organisers claim there was a substantial increase in numbers as well as exhibitors.

We shared a site with the Tin Can Bay Fishing Club and we gratefully acknowledge the support from the Club in particular Paul Moorehouse. Branch Members John Greig and Phillip Mason made up the team from Fraser Coast. The day was off to a good start at 9am and there was a high level of activity throughout the day.

We went there loaded with information from our own sources by way of fact sheets,Branch Information and activities ,membership application forms ,loads of materiel from Fisheries Qld as well as the stop netting stickers . Banners and other information was also provided by Sunfish Qld.

The Stop Netting Stickers were very popular,probably because the message was simple and straight to the point. It often lead to visitors seeking more information about what was behind it and why was it needed.

Commercial Fishers also came up and spoke to us .From what we could glean they were from outside the region. Understandably there wasn't much interaction with the net fishers in the GSS and TCB.

It is difficult to evaluate the outcomes from the day .Like the Boat Show in Brisbane it was refreshing to hear people say they appreciated the work done by Sunfish. To date there hasn't been any new members signed up but that could bring a result later .

It was the first time we attended an expo on a a scale, like this so I guess we are on a learning curve.

A special thanks to John Greig ,Phillip Mason and Paul Morehouse for their efforts

Martin Bellert
Secretary