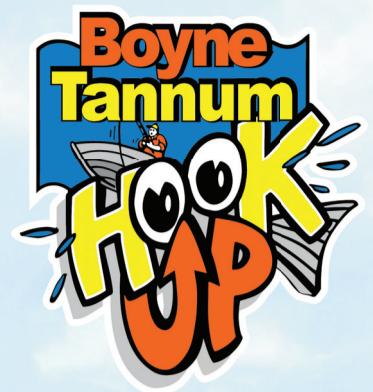


# HOOKUP NEWS



24th April, 2025



## THREE DECADES STRONG

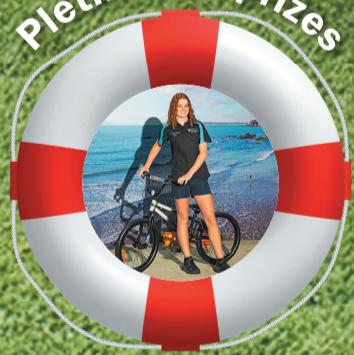
The Boyne Tannum HookUp returns in the first week of May to celebrate its 30th incredible year.

Looking back on history



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Plethora of prizes



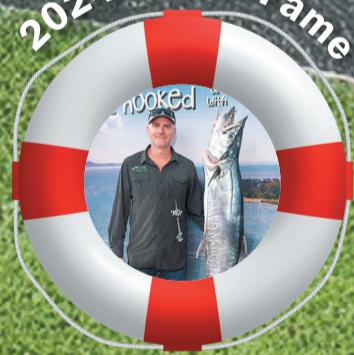
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Official program



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2024 Hall of Fame



PAGES 18-19

## PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



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# President opens 30th year

Welcome fishing enthusiasts, families, visitors, and local community members.

Happy Birthday to the HookUp, celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year.

This year the Boyne Tannum HookUp celebrates its 30th year of bringing together family, friends, sponsors, businesses, community groups and supporters from across Australia to enjoy our magnificent community event showcasing the Gladstone Region as a premier fishing location.

Australia's Biggest Family Fishing Competition 2025 will offer its largest prize pool ever with over \$450,000 worth of prizes to be won across the three day weekend.

The Boyne Tannum HookUp Association is a not-for-profit organisation with a Management Committee who works tirelessly all year long to deliver this professional and prestigious event for the Gladstone Region.

We are grateful for the support from our 47 amazing sponsors to make the 2025 HookUp event possible, especially our Platinum Sponsor, the Gladstone Regional Council and Aestec Services.

The HookUp creates opportunities for our 20 community group partners to raise money for their worthy organisations all while promoting the Boyne Tannum area.

Following our 2024 event key learnings, the HookUp Management Committee agreed to put a focus on saying thank you to the anglers who participate and sustainable fishing.

At the 2025 event you will notice a few things, including:

We wanted to give back to the anglers and participants and so our prize pool reflects just that.

16 eligible fish species, as it is the second year of the reintroduction of the Black Jewfish to the Non-Live fish category.

There are 4 Live catch and release species, Barramundi, Flathead, Grunter, Salmon (Blue Threadfin and King Threadfin)

Second year of the Ladies' Fish and Sip sessions – just for the ladies who want to learn to fish and have an enjoyable time doing so.

We are advocates for encouraging families to get out on the water and to promote sustainable fishing practices while encouraging a focus on environmental impacts and education. The Gladstone Area Water Board Education tent is back with guest speakers and informative sessions.

We saw an increase in fish weigh-ins at our Gladstone satellite weigh-in station last year and we will once again offer weigh-in stations at Bray Park and the Gladstone Ports Corporation Marina Parklands, via Alf O'Rourke Drive.

Junior and Senior anglers compete in the fishing competition to win daily and overall cash prizes totalling over \$20,000 along with overall angler trophies, fishing charters and the major prize angler boats.

We have created the Elite Angler – Largest Fish prize for the event.

The Elite Angler prize will be awarded to one angler who weighs-in the largest fish during the three day competition. This can be a senior or junior angler, male or female.

The Elite Angler prize winner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize, plus a charter prize and trophy.

Those anglers putting together a team have



Boyne Tannum HookUp Association president Karen Windress. (Wezzy Cruze)

the chance to win an amazing cash prize and one lucky family will win the \$1,000 Pat O'Reilly Memorial Family Trifecta.

To all those anglers fishing at the beautiful Lake Awoonga, keep an eye out for the three tagged barramundi worth \$5,000 each if caught during the HookUp weekend.

If you're not a keen angler (or may not have luck catching anything) and would rather enjoy the event from inside the park, there's still plenty of prizes to win just for buying a ticket.

We will have three nights of promotional prize draws featuring the Senior 590 Sea Jay Titan Boat valued at over \$112,000, junior, and senior boats, tackle combos, junior bikes and more.

You will have until 3pm on Sunday, 4 May 2025 to purchase your tickets to win.

On top of the great fishing and prizes, there will be heaps of activities for the whole family to enjoy across the weekend, including food and drinks, Gladstone Ports Corporation Youth Engagement tent with free kids' activities and fishing lessons,

the Boyne Island McDonald's Junior Lure Throwing Competition, rides, and live music.

The event will finish with a bang as we light up the sky over the Boyne River on Sunday night with the region's best fireworks.

Get out there this May Day long weekend with your family and mates to enjoy fishing and taking in all that the Boyne Tannum HookUp has to offer.

**Karen Windress**

**President,**

**Boyne Tannum HookUp Association**

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## HOOKUP NEWS

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Publisher Paul Thomas

## Mayor welcomes all to this year's event

Welcome to the 30th annual Boyne Tannum HookUp.

It's hard to believe that it has been three decades since this fantastic event first lit up Bray Park in 1996, quickly becoming the pride of Boyne Island and Tannum Sands community.

It's been my privilege to watch the event grow from its humble beginnings into the biggest family fishing competition in Australia.

For as long as I have been in local government, Council has been proud of this event and I am thrilled that Council is a Platinum Sponsor for its 30th year.

Former Gladstone Region Councillor Darryl Branthwaite was a founding member of the Boyne Tannum HookUp Committee and I know Darryl is proud to have played a part in creating such a prominent event for our region.

The ongoing success of the Boyne Tannum HookUp is owed to the passionate team of volunteers who work together each year, in addition to the significant contributions of industry and local businesses who fill the prize pool.

As a Gladstone Region local, I thank you all for your dedication to creating fantastic events in our community.

However, there is no Boyne Tannum HookUp without its entrants – we know some anglers visit from far and wide to compete in the competition.

I extend my warmest welcome to those who are travelling for the event, and I wish you all the best of luck.

Let's go fishing Gladstone Region - you'll be glad you did!

**Mayor Matt Burnett**  
Gladstone Regional Council



Gladstone region mayor Matt Burnett is proud to welcome all to the Boyne Tannum HookUp. (Supplied)

# Hooking into BTHU history

By Liam Emerton

When the Boyne Tannum Chamber of Commerce was looking for a significant event to call its own, an idea from two brothers sparked a now 30-year legacy.

Darryl Branthwaite and the Chamber were throwing ideas around for a year before Zach and Paul Simmons came to the table with the idea for a large-scale fishing competition.

With the Chamber, the brothers and fellow business leaders Ned Beaumont, Don Collier and Robyn Shepherd all coming together, they helped birth the Boyne Tannum HookUp in 1996.

Now 30 years on the event is still running strong despite challenges facing the Boyne Tannum HookUp Association every year.

Mr Branthwaite - a life member of the HookUp - is incredibly pleased to have seen the event build and continue for an impressive three decades.

"I think it is incredible that it has come to 30 years. I was involved for about 16 years," he said.

"It was all to just give Boyne Tannum an event that they could call their own and to try to promote local business."

"We threw a few ideas around for a year or so but then Zac and Paul Simmons and Ned Beaumont joined the community with their businesses."

"And everybody started to read off the same page. So we said, why can't we get something like this started?"

"We had 800 contestants the first year, 1000 the next and built up to 1600 after that."

Reflecting on his time with the HookUp, Mr Branthwaite said there were some wild moments, especially when shifting to electronic entries in the 2000s.

"And at one stage when we were converting from paper entries to electronic ones we had 4500 entries. It was crazy," he said.

"We just had so many people in the park, there was standing room only."

"It was interesting times. We had to limit the adult entries to 3000 and unlimited kids - which we usually had around 900 entries of."

Mr Branthwaite was full of praise for the current committee and president Karen Windress



Boyne Tannum HookUp originals Darryl Branthwaite and Ned Beaumont put on a mock news bulletin during the 2007 HookUp weekend. (Supplied)

who have helped maintain the HookUp while continuing to innovate the town's most famous event.

"I'm extremely proud myself but I'm also ex-

tremely proud of the people who are running it now," he said.

"It is a lot of work. It is 10 months if not more of planning."

"For Karen and her team, they've done such an amazing job, especially with such a small team."

"Competing for those sponsorship dollars is really difficult so hats off to them."

## The numbers of the HookUp add up

By Liam Emerton

There were some amazing numbers at last year's Boyne Tannum HookUp which should be delved into.

Just shy of 3100 competitors, including 837 juniors, the HookUp put on another spectacular show in 2024.

And there were still a monstrous amount of people who attended without getting a line wet.

A whopping 28,000 estimated people took to Bray Park across the 2024 event.

That also saw 894 anglers from outside the Gladstone region - which helped boost the local economy by \$2.8 million.

But what about the most important aspect of the HookUp, the fish.

There were 1139 live fish weighed in and 77 non-live measured last year with 22 per cent of entrants weighing in at least one catch.

All of the incredible numbers wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of volunteers.

A mesmerising 300 volunteers poured their heart and soul into the event in order to make sure Australia's largest family fishing competition ran smoothly.

With everything running smoothly, the HookUp was able to retain 46 per cent of en-

trants from the previous HookUp and that number will likely increase this year.

The HookUp also helped community partners earn some funding for their own projects with \$120,000 shared between 21 clubs and organisations.

The BTHU is also very thankful for the amazing 53 sponsors who came on board to help make sure the event stays afloat with the event expenditure costing \$460,000.

The Boyne Tannum HookUp is fun for everyone, and the numbers back that up. (Debbie Buckland)



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This year's major prize: Sea Jay Boats 590 Titan powered by a thunderous 150hp Yamaha motor and Outta Range Marine electronics.



The junior promotional prize tinny.

# Most generous on record

This year's Boyne Tannum HookUp is the most generous on record.

The Boyne Tannum HookUp Association had to up the prize pool this year to celebrate three decades of running the event and they have delivered.

There is a whopping \$450,000 of prizes up for grabs, even for those who would rather stay on dry land.

The major prize on everybody's wishlist is the gorgeous Sea Jay Boats 590 Titan powered by a thunderous 150hp Yamaha motor and Outta Range Marine electronics.

With a simply stunning deep blue compass

wrap design, the monster boat will have plenty of entries and eyes on it come Sunday evening when the winner is announced.

But even before the big draw drops, the smaller prizes still add up to major wins for the anglers and fans of the HookUp.

Two boats, one for senior anglers and the other for juniors, will go up from grabs on Sunday for those who have weighed-in any fish during the three days of the event.

There will be a minimum of 24 Junior tackle shop sponsor prizes and 36 Senior tackle shop sponsor prizes given out.

And don't forget about the Gladstone Bicycle

Centre's junior bike prize - which is one of the longest-running giveaways at the event.

CQ's oldest bicycle shop has been delivering fantastic bikes for the juniors anglers who have taken on the HookUp since the early days.

But remember to claim these promotional prizes, the winner must be in Bray Park, Boyne Island and make themselves known to the HookUp Management Committee or the master of ceremony on stage within the two minute timer to claim their prize; otherwise, it will be redrawn until a winner is identified within a two minute period.

For entertainment purposes only, the promotional prize draws will be live streamed from

6pm each evening and can be watched on the links contained on the HookUp's website, Facebook live stream and/or YouTube.

There also prizes for anglers across the three days with cash up for grabs for the largest fish of every eligible species.

And don't forget the elite angler prize for the largest non-live species fish.

The winner can be senior or junior and will receive \$1000 alongside a trophy and of course major bragging rights.

There is so much to win this year at the Boyne Tannum HookUp so make sure you are there to enter and possibly collect your winnings.



*Congratulations to the*  
**BOYNE TANNUM  
HOOKUP**

**on delivering Australia's best family  
fishing competition for 30 years.**

We are delighted to host the HookUp in our picturesque Bray Park and proud to be a Platinum sponsor of the event.



Like me, you'll be **Glad** to fish here all year round.

Gladstone Region

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you made it!

[gladyoumadeit.com.au](http://gladyoumadeit.com.au)

# Families fishing for gold

By Liam Emerton

The Boyne Tannum HookUp is Australia's biggest family fishing competition and the Pat O'Reilly Memorial Family Trifecta trophy rewards those superstar families.

The award was created in memory of original Pat's Tackleworld Gladstone owner Pat O'Reilly - who was heavily involved in the event - and loved the family fishing aspect of the HookUp.

The aim of the Pat O'Reilly Memorial Family Trifecta is to promote and reward family fishing activity while also offering up a generous prize of \$1000.

The Pat O'Reilly Memorial Trifecta Trophy was won by the Partington family in 2024.

Matthew, Pippa and Corinne collected the trophy after successfully reeling in all three species before being drawn out as the overall winners.

At least one senior HookUp entrant, which can be a dad, mum, uncle, aunty or grandparent, joins forces with their at least one child, niece, nephew and grandchild, to target the estuary trifecta.

Those three fish in the targeted trio are whiting, bream and a flathead with the family aiming to reel in all three.

B the catches have to be shared between the senior and junior participants with one family member only able to catch a maximum of two of the species.

To enter, the family must fill in the 'Family Trifecta' form available from the HookUp live fish weigh-in stations.

The entry form can only be completed once the three fish species have been weighed in and passed the 30-minute live fish qualifying time.

Entries close at 4.15pm Sunday on the final day of the competition at the Bray Park Live Fish Weigh-In Station or at 3:15pm Sunday at the Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp Weigh-In Station.

The winning entry will be drawn randomly from the eligible families in the entry box and then checked that it is valid before it is announced to the public.



The Pat O'Reilly Memorial Trifecta Trophy for the family fishing competition was won by the Partington family, Matthew, Pippa and Corinne. (WEZZY CRUZE)

## Reef City Motors Congratulates The Boyne Tannum Hook Up! 30 Years of Fishing, Fun & Community.

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# ANGLERS TIPS



## LIVE FISH

### WHITING

**Location:**  
Wild Cattle Creek

**Catch methods and tips:**

Fresh pumped yabbies. Use a light rod to fish the incoming tide over the sand flats.



## LIVE FISH

### FINGERMARK (GOLDEN SNAPPER)

**Location:**  
Rocky outcrops in Gladstone Harbour

**Catch methods and tips:**

Look for schooling herring on fish finder. Use mullet, herring or lures which resemble that these types of bait.



## LIVE FISH

### MANGROVE JACK

**Location:**  
Calliope River

**Catch methods and tips:**

Live mullet. Cast deep into rock bard or snags. Tighten drags and hang on!



## NON LIVE

### SNAPPER

**Location:**  
12 mile reef

**Catch methods and tips:**

Whole squid on gang hooks. Fish the ledges in the early morning hours.



## NON LIVE

### RED THROAT EMPEROR (SWEETLIP)

**Location:**  
Rock Cod Shoals

**Catch methods and tips:**

Squid or pilchards. Fish the drop offs from shoals. Use enough weight to get to bottom but not too much.



## NON LIVE

### BLACK JEWFISH

**Location:**  
Shipping channel markers

**Catch methods and tips:**

Large prawns or herring. However only use prawns designated for fishing not the ones from the grocers.



## NON LIVE

### LARGEMOUTH NANNYGAI

**Location:**  
Bindaree Wreck

**Catch methods and tips:**

Live squid on paternoster rig. Fish tide changes before the run gets too strong.



## LIVE CATCH & RELEASE

### BARRAMUNDI

**Location:**  
Awoonga Dam

**Catch methods and tips:**

Fish the points with a large paddle tail plastic or 100mm hardbody lure. In the early morning try surface lures in the shallows.



## LIVE CATCH & RELEASE

### SALMON (BLUE THREADFIN)

**Location:**  
Grahams Creek

**Catch methods and tips:**

Three inch paddle tail soft plastic. Can be found practically anywhere in the creek and harbour system.

# AND TRICKS



## YELLOWFIN BREAM

**Location:**  
Boyne River

**Catch methods and tips:**  
Prawns for bait. For best results peel the prawn and a light pea sinker.



## PIKEY BREAM

**Location:**  
Boyne River (Benaraby)

**Catch methods and tips:**  
Prawns for bait. For best results peel the prawn and a light pea sinker.



## RED EMPEROR

**Location:**  
Douglas Shoals

**Catch methods and tips:**  
Hussar fillet. Look for deep water. Better fish are found on isolated bommies.

LIVE FISH

LIVE FISH

NON LIVE



NON LIVE



NON LIVE



NON LIVE



LIVE CATCH & RELEASE



LIVE CATCH & RELEASE



LIVE CATCH & RELEASE

## SALMON (KING THREADFIN)

**Location:**  
The Narrows

**Catch methods and tips:**  
95mm soft vibe lure. Look for indent in the mud banks where threadies have been feeding.

## FLATHEAD

**Location:**  
Turkey Beach

**Catch methods and tips:**  
Alpha lures Yabbie. Drift or slow wind with rod tip twitches now and then. Look for drain entrances.

## GRUNTER

**Location:**  
South Trees inlet

**Catch methods and tips:**  
Use a live prawns or gulp lure. Drift fish or slow wind in about 3m of water.

# Barra provide \$5k boost

By Liam Emerton

Boyne Tannum HookUp anglers have plenty of chances to win prizes and cash on the May Day weekend - but there may be no challenge more alluring than the pink-tagged barramundi.

The Gladstone Area Water Board's Lake Awoonga pink-tagged barramundi challenge has tempted many over the years with anglers having the chance to win \$5000 if they reel one in.

There are more than 20 pink-tagged barras roaming around the dam, but there is one less after angler Earl Haigh recently captured one of the elusive slabs.

"This competition brings an exciting new layer of fun to the already fantastic fishing experience at Lake Awoonga," Gladstone Area Water Board chief executive Darren Barlow said.

"It's a great opportunity for our community to enjoy the lake's abundant fishing while making the most of our free, high-quality recreational areas and facilities including a new boat loading pontoon."

"There's never been a better time to cast your line at Lake Awoonga."

While Haigh captured \$1000 for reeling in the barramundi outside of the HookUp, during the event that prize money will go up five-fold.

To claim the \$5,000 prize money for each fish, the Barramundi must be presented under the Live Fish Category and tag checked by BTHU officials.

- The competitor may photograph the Barramundi in accordance with the Barramundi Catch and Release section, ensuring the tag is photographed clearly or by removing the tag.

- Competitors can also bring the live tagged Barramundi into the live fish weigh-in station



Earl Haigh earned \$1000 when he caught this pink-tagged barra at Lake Awoonga, recently. (Supplied)

in accordance with the Live Fish Category section.

▪ Anglers are only eligible for the \$5,000 cash

prize if the fish are caught between Friday, 2 May and Sunday, 4 May 2024.

To check the rules and conditions of the

Boyne Tannum HookUp pink tagged fish category, please visit [www.boynetannumhookup.com.au/event-categories/](http://www.boynetannumhookup.com.au/event-categories/)

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to the Boyne Tannum HookUp for 30 years of fishing fun!



We wish everyone well  
at this year's Boyne Tannum  
Hook Up weekend



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# Shimano returns for 30th

Shimano Fishing Australia will once again be attending the 30th Boyne Tannum Hook up with a variety of activations across the weekend event.

Featuring a range of Shimano's latest products, attendees will experience the opportunity to come and see some of the industry's leading fishing products and chat to staff about many of their products.

Shimano has a long history with the HookUp and enjoy being able to bring recreational fishos closer to their products and provide a huge number of prizes to all entrants of the event.

Shimano will host the annual Ladies Fish N Sip activation; hosting a group of many new female anglers with so tips and tricks on knot tying and casting tuition.

The kids won't miss out either, with Shimano offering casting clinics throughout the weekend and a number of Shimano Fishing talent will be featured at the event offered their expert knowledge.

Shimano are industry leaders in fishing tackle and offer some of the most technological advanced fishing products available in the market.

Several ranges have been popular in the local region like the Zodias and Grappler rod ranges and reels like the Stradic SW and Vanford.

You will see plenty of the elite Shimano range out at the HookUp this weekend.

Make sure to visit our activations so we can help provide you with the best product for all of your fishing needs.

Be sure to check out Shimano's activation at the Boyne Tannum across the weekend, you won't be disappointed.

Shimano would like to congratulate the Boyne Tannum HookUp on reaching an incredible 30 years as one of the region's premier events.

**Shimano's Grappler has been extremely popular for local fishing recently. (Supplied)**



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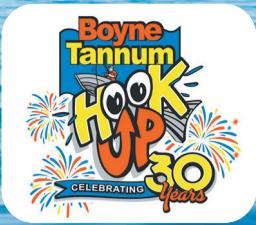
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SCAN THE QR CODE TO KNOW MORE

**HOOKUP NEWS 9**



# EVENT P

The Event Program Is

## FRIDAY 2ND MAY 2025

<b>6:00AM-6:00PM</b>	<b>HookUp merchandise on sale</b> of HookUp fishing shirts, stubby coolers & brag mats <b>HookUp raffle tickets on sale</b> WIN a Tinny, Camping fridge or Weekender pack <b>Collect a free 2025 HookUp brag mat sticker*</b> for Live Catch and Release & Team categories available from administration and merchandise
<b>7:00AM</b>	<b>EVENT OPENS</b> at Bray Park, Boyne Island with Queensland Water Police safety brief, flare demonstration & MSQ Life Jacket demonstration
<b>7:30AM</b>	<b>Early bird prize draws in Bray Park</b>
<b>8:00AM - 4:00PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>8:00AM - LATE</b>	<b>Food Stalls operating</b> thanks to our local community group partners and stallholders
<b>9:00AM - 3:00PM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp</b>
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b> at Bray Park, Boyne Island and Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp with additional release times 12:00pm, 2:00pm & 4:30pm
<b>10:00AM - 11:00AM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>12:00PM - 10:00PM</b>	<b>Bar operating</b> thanks to our local community groups
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>1:00PM - 5:00PM</b>	Youth Engagement Marquee opens <b>FREE children's activities in Bray Park</b> with the HookUp Youth Ambassadors at the GPC Youth Engagement Marquee
<b>1:30PM</b>	<b>FREE Sponsor demonstrations</b> & interactions in the park
<b>2:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>2:00PM - 4:00PM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Stations at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp close</b>
<b>4:00PM- 6:00PM</b>	<b>FREE live music in Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> by local CQ artists
<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Stations at Bray Park, Boyne Island close</b>
<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Junior learn to fish lesson</b> with Hodgie and the HookUp Youth Ambassadors ( <i>prior online booking required</i> )
<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>FROM 6:00PM</b>	<b>Daily prize draws from Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> • GPC Youth Engagement Program Colouring in Competition prizes • Daily fishing competition category winners* • Angler and Promotional prize draws
<b>7:30PM- 10:00PM</b>	<b>FREE live music in Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> by local CQ artists
<b>10:00PM</b>	<b>CLOSE</b>

\*available to collect each day

## SATURDAY 3RD MAY 2025

<b>7:00am</b>	<b>Bray Park, Boyne Island OPENS</b> <b>Collect a free 2025 HookUp brag mat sticker*</b> for Live Catch and Release & Team categories available from administration and merchandise
All day	<b>Food Stalls operating</b> until late thanks to our local community group partners and stallholders
<b>8:00AM - 4:00PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>9:00AM - 6:00PM</b>	<b>HookUp merchandise on sale</b> of HookUp fishing shirts, stubby coolers & brag mats <b>HookUp raffle tickets on sale</b> WIN a Tinny, Camping fridge or Weekender pack
<b>9:00AM - 3:00PM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp</b> operating 9:00am to 3:00pm
<b>9:00AM - 5:00PM</b>	<b>FREE children's activities in Bray Park</b> with the HookUp Youth Ambassadors at the GPC Youth Engagement Marquee
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Junior learn to fish lesson</b> with Hodgie and the HookUp Youth Ambassadors ( <i>prior online booking required</i> )
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b> at Bray Park, Boyne Island and Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp with additional release times 12:00pm, 2:00pm & 4:30pm
<b>10:00AM - 11:00AM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>11:35AM - 2:30PM</b>	<b>GAWB Fishing Education Marquee open</b> in Bray Park featuring a variety of educational speakers and demonstrations, including seafood cooking and filleting
<b>12:00PM - 10:00PM</b>	<b>Bar operating</b> thanks to our local community groups
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>12:30PM</b>	<b>FREE Sponsor demonstrations</b> & interactions in the park
<b>1:30PM - 2:30PM</b>	<b>FREE Boyne Island McDonald's Junior Lure Throwing Competition</b> with Hodgie on a giant pink flamingo on the Boyne River (meet at the pontoon)
<b>2:00PM - 4:00PM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>2:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>2:30pm</b>	<b>Gladstone Seafarers Centre's DUCK RACE</b> on the Boyne River



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# PROGRAM

Subject To Change

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## SATURDAY 3RD MAY 2025 continued

<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp closes</b>
<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>Junior learn to fish lesson</b> with Hodgie and the HookUp Youth Ambassadors (prior online booking required)
<b>4:00PM - 6:00PM</b>	<b>FREE live music in the park</b> by local CQ artists
<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station at Bray Park, Boyne Island closes</b>
<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>Ladies Fish &amp; Sip Session</b> with Shimano VIP Presenters (prior online booking required)
<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>FROM 6:00PM</b>	<b>Daily prize draws from Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> • Daily fishing competition species winners* • Angler and Promotional prize draws
<b>7:30PM- 10:00PM</b>	<b>FREE live music in the park</b> by local CQ artists
<b>10:00PM</b>	<b>CLOSE</b>

\*available to collect each day

## SUNDAY 4TH MAY 2025

<b>7:00am</b>	<b>Bray Park, Boyne Island OPENS</b> Collect a free 2025 HookUp brag mat sticker* for Live Catch and Release & Team categories
All Day	<b>Food Stalls operating</b> until late thanks to our local community group partners and stallholders
<b>8:00AM - 3:30PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>9:00AM - 5:00PM</b>	<b>FREE children's activities in Bray Park</b> with the HookUp Youth Ambassadors at the GPC Youth Engagement Marquee
<b>9:00AM - 6:00PM</b>	<b>HookUp merchandise on sale</b> of HookUp fishing shirts, stubby coolers & brag mats <b>HookUp raffle tickets on sale</b> WIN a Tinny, Camping fridge or Weekender pack
<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Live &amp; Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station opens at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp</b> operating 9:00am to 2:30pm for live fish weigh-ins and 9:00am to 3:00pm for non-live fish weigh-ins
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b> at Bray Park, Boyne Island and Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp with additional release times 12:00pm, 2:00pm & 4:30pm
<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Junior learn to fish lesson</b> with Hodgie and the HookUp Youth Ambassadors (prior online booking required)
<b>10:00AM - 11:00AM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>11:35AM - 2:30PM</b>	<b>GAWB Fishing Education Marquee open</b> in Bray Park featuring a variety of educational speakers and demonstrations, including seafood cooking and filleting
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Bar operating</b> thanks to our local community groups
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>12:30PM</b>	<b>FREE Sponsor demonstrations &amp; interactions in the park</b>
<b>1:30PM - 2:30PM</b>	<b>FREE Boyne Island McDonald's Junior Lure Throwing Comp</b> with Hodgie's Pink Flamingo on the Boyne River (meet at the McDonalds tent near the pontoon)
<b>2:00PM - 4:00PM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In open at Bray Park, Boyne Island</b>
<b>2:00PM</b>	<b>Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>2:30PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp closes</b>
<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>Non-Live Fish Weigh-In Station at Gladstone Main VMR Boat Ramp closes</b>
<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>FINAL Junior learn to fish lesson</b> with Hodgie and the HookUp Youth Ambassadors (prior online booking required)
<b>3:30PM</b>	<b>Live Fish Weigh-In Station at Bray Park, Boyne Island closes</b>
<b>4:00PM - 6:00PM</b>	<b>FREE live music in Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> by local CQ artists
<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>Ladies Fish &amp; Sip Session</b> with Shimano VIP Presenters (prior online booking required)
<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Final Release of live fish by Gladstone Sportfishing Club</b>
<b>FROM 6:00PM</b>	<b>Daily prize draws from Bray Park, Boyne Island</b> • Daily fishing competition category winners* • Fireworks Display at 7:30pm • Angler and Promotional Prize draws • Overall event fishing competition winners • Raffle prize draws
<b>10:00PM</b>	<b>CLOSE</b>

\*available to collect each day



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The Hatch family.



A flashback to 2014 cooking display.



Junior boat winner Jordn Brotchie in his boat, presented by Paul, Phill and Graeme Klease on 2007.

The Boyne Tannum HookUp's incredible 30 year journey has always been snapped up by photographers. Take a look back at some familiar faces and photos which the HookUp committee have dug up for their 30 year anniversary.

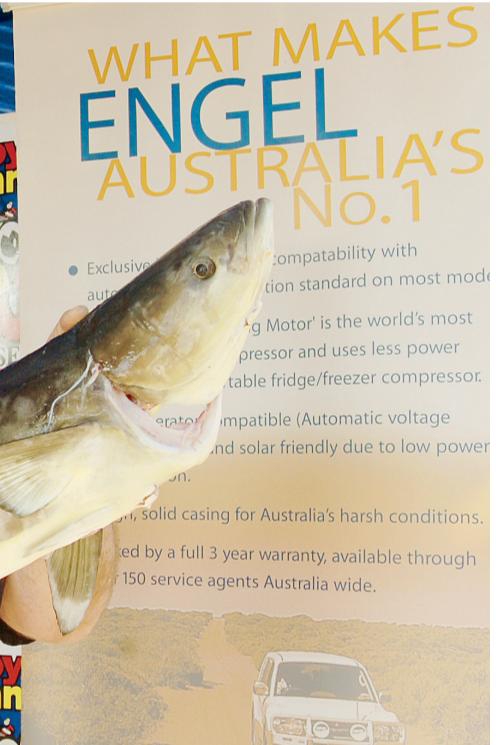
## BT HookUp's time capsule



Alice Boston and Amanda and Serena Zamper showing their grassy sweetlips.



A huge Cobia was Greg Vary's catch of the event at the HookUp in 2008. (Supplied)



Bruce Peterson and a beautiful snapper.



The 2016 major boat prize.



A monster group with some massive fish.



Celebrating a red emperor champion in 2009.



The crowds flood into Bray Park for the Saturday night entertainment in 2007.



Anthony Taylor nabbed a red throat and a coral trout during the HookUp in 2007.



Brandan Russell and a parrot tusk.



Andrew Parnell and a nice red emperor.



Mark Stafford of Fosters presents Peter Sherriff with the award for catching the biggest fish, a 30kg Spanish mackerel.



A beautiful blackspot tuskfish.

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Authorised by Colin Boyce MP, LNP, 76 Goondoon St, Gladstone 4680

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# Ducking back into favourite

Prepare to be swept away by the Gladstone Seafarers Duck Derby, a playful and heartwarming event that's part of the beloved Boyne Tannum HookUp.

This year, the duck derby is making a triumphant return after a brief hiatus in 2023 due to staffing challenges.

The derby raises vital funds for the Gladstone Seafarers, a dedicated organization that supports the land-based needs of crews docking at the port.

In 2024, the Seafarers assisted an impressive 3,300 seafarers, welcoming them to shore from their vessels.

With approximately 2,000 ships visiting Gladstone last year, each with around 22 crew members, the Seafarers' work is truly invaluable.

This year, the derby promises to be bigger and better than ever. Organizers are offering 3,000 ducks for public sale at \$5 each, as well as 100 full-sized corporate ducks for \$100 each.

The corporate ducks can be adorned with business logos, and the lucky winners will receive a \$1,000 prize to donate to the charity of their choice, along with the use of a bus and driver for a celebratory party.

For the public, the prize pool is equally impressive, with \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second, and \$300 for third.

And even if your duck comes in last, you'll still receive \$200 – a true testament to the community spirit of the event.

The ducks will be released into the Boyne River during the HookUp at 2.30 pm on Saturday, May 5, 2025, at the Bray Park boat ramp.

The Maritime Safety Queensland team has generously donated their time and boat to facilitate the release, and the tide will carry the ducks to the beach.

So, whether you're a marine industry veteran or a member of the wider business community, now is the time to get on board and support the vital work of the Gladstone Seafarers.

Join the fun, make a splash, and be part of this incredible community celebration.



Gladstone Seafarers Janelle Gilmour selling the derby ducks at Bunnings. (Supplied)



Gladstone Ports Corporation is proud to sponsor the Youth Engagement Program supporting sustainable fishing at this year's Boyne Tannum Hookup event.

# Laughs and lures for ladies

By Liam Emerton

The Boyne Tannum HookUp, a renowned fishing event, has consistently been at the forefront of innovation.

Last year was no exception, as the organizers introduced a brand-new initiative called the Ladies' Fish and Sip sessions.

And this year it's back.

A session each at 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, the popular event returns with the same focus on encouraging more women to participate in fishing, both during the HookUp and in their everyday lives.

Once again experienced instructors will be brought in to teach ladies of all skill levels the art of fishing, regardless of their previous experience.

Attendees are invited to bring their favourite beverages to accompany the provided platters as they learned valuable skills.

From tying the perfect knot to engaging in interactive casting demonstrations, participants have the opportunity to pick up handy fishing tips while enjoying the scenic Central Queensland coastline.

The afternoons by the water will be filled with a delightful blend of fishing, laughter, and relaxation, creating a fun and friendly atmosphere for all involved.

The Boyne Tannum HookUp ensures that all necessary fishing equipment was provided for the participants to use during the sessions.

The Association's volunteers and related sponsor representatives led the sessions in a professional manner, with the hopes of seeing the attendees apply their newfound skills back on the water in the near future.



Fish N Sips encourages ladies to get out there and try fishing while socialising. (Wezzy Cruze)

A close-up photograph showing hands working on a car's engine compartment. One hand holds a red jumper cable connected to a car battery. Another hand holds a silver electronic device, likely a multimeter or battery tester. The background is blurred to focus on the hands and the battery area.

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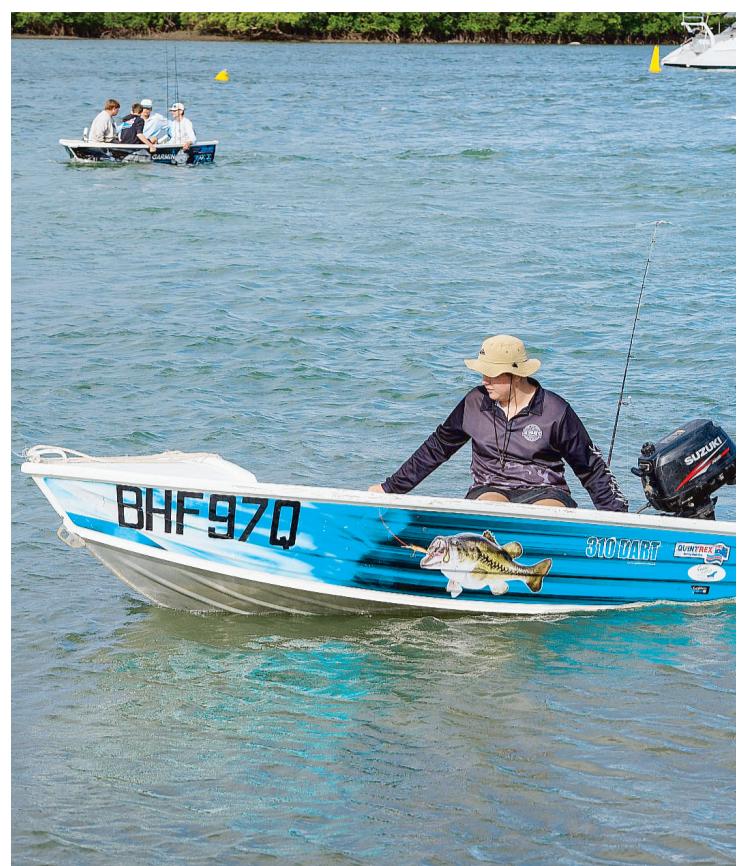
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Boyne Tannum HookUp photographer **WEZZY CRUZE** was there for all three days of the event last year and captured some amazing snapshots of the 29th annual HookUp.

# Snapping up 2024's event



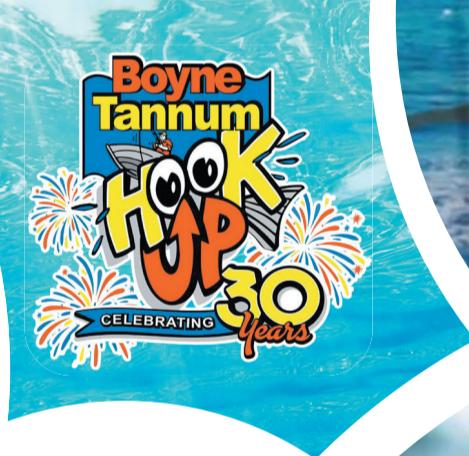


# Junior HookUp 2024 Hall of Fame

## Overall Junior Winners from 2024

Name	City	Species	Weight/Length
Emilie Pershouse	Cooroy	Live Flathead	730mm
Danielle Watkins	Glen Eden	Live Whiting	0.310kg
Noah Jasinski	Benaraby	Live Fingermark	2.515kg
Nayt Crawford	Sun Valley	Live Mangrove Jack	1.580kg
Thomas Major	Calliope	Live Yellowfin Bream and Pikey Bream	0.945kg
Max Penny	Black Mountain	Live Grunter	630mm
Aria Simpson	Gladstone	Live Barramundi	720mm
Cooper Robins	Zilzie	Live Salmon	795mm
Andrew Hagan	Boronia Heights	Red Emperor	2.675kg
Lilly Abbott	Tannum Sands	Snapper	0.635kg
William Berry	West Stowe	Spanish Mackerel	8.825kg
No Winner	-	Cobia	-
Lexi Heath	Tannum Sands	Coral Trout	2.360kg
Lukas Horwell	Gracemere	Large Mouth Nannygai	1.470kg
India Heath	Tannum Sands	Red Throat Emperor	2.360kg
Annabelle Rach	Kabra	Black Jewfish	4.705kg

Check out the  
8th May edition of  
Gladstone *Today*  
for photos, results  
and more!



# Senior HookUp 2024 Hall of Fame

## Overall Senior Winners from 2024

Name	City	Species	Weight/Length
Brandon Gillett	Tannum Sands	Live Flathead	690mm
Erik Van Zelst	Calliope	Live Whiting	0.325kg
Dale Simpson	Gladstone	Live Fingermark	4.820kg
Karl Fodriga	O'Connell	Live Mangrove Jack	2.630kg
Jimmy Butler	Boyne Island	Live Yellowfin Bream and Pikey Bream	1.010kg
Jeremy Mcvay	Tannum Sands	Live Grunter	670mm
Paul Dennien	Gladstone	Live Barramundi	1100mm
Harrison Dreier	Calliope	Live Salmon	1,090mm
Breana Hickey	Boyne Island	Red Emperor	4.065kg
Stuart Mann	Steiglitz	Snapper	2.410kg
Adam Amos	New Auckland	Spanish Mackerel	19.995kg
Dan Wilson	Gladstone	Cobia	4.465kg
Cody Silsby	Gladstone	Coral Trout	4.465kg
Blair Tripcony	Rosemount	Large Mouth Nannygai	3.460kg
Cameron Jarrett	Gladstone	Red Throat Emperor	2.195kg
Kurt Sherwood	Benaraby	Black Jewfish	22.085kg

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