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VOLUME 306 PRICELESS

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OCT 26

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Fishing Port Douglas

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Plus Some More ...

Hi to Everyone from the Port Douglas Marlin Challenge team.
The cheques have been drawn up, this is real MONEY !!

CATEGORIES
Winning Skipper (sponsored by AST Australia)
1st 10K
2nd 5K
3rd 3K
4th 2K

Champion Angler (sponsored by Phoenix One Luxury Charters)
1st 3K
2nd 2K

Daily Boat Winners x 4 (sponsored by Lure Shop Cooktown & Coastal Coverings)
1K per day

Winning Boat (sponsored by Salt Diary App)
5K - eligible to those that use the App during the tournament

Winning Deck Team (sponsored by Australian Sportfishing Charters)
3.5K

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10% Club
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Top 3 boat placings

If you have a successful event this could be a tournament to REMEMBER for all your team involved .....

Registrations Close 10th November
Luxury Salsa Bar presentation 21st November 7pm.

Please any questions call Heff on 0409610869
or email info@fishingportdouglas.com.au

OR Register NOW - www.portdouglasmarlinchallenge.com





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Local Fishing News

Wow, as they say a week or two difference in the fishing world is a long time. We'd been experiencing some pretty crappy conditions for awhile but in the last 3 weeks it has all come together and bearing the richest fruit we can offer. A long deserved weather forecast has been the catalyst for great fishing on all fronts.

RIVER

We normally talk about what is happening inside the river and creek systems themselves, but there was a recent phenomenon which occurred not too far away along the Port Douglas coastline and beaches. In over 30yrs I've never seen anything like it just to give you an idea.

For 9 days when the calm weather arrived a huge supply of bait fish arrived right on our doorstep, literally 40 - 100m from the shoreline. Well did this create a sight for sore eyes and lips trembling with excitement.

This obvious massive bait school extended for about 4km and remained for the entire time. It was a sight to behold.

First indication was the amount of sea birds that arrived and then the predators arrived in huge numbers. Even viewing from 4 Mile Beach and the headland the bust ups were enormous. Non fisher people enjoying the beach were astonished at the activity.

Well what seemed to turn up first was the hairtail or wolf herring in substantial numbers. Then the spotted and spanish mackerel turned up because they love to eat these hairtail around 40-60cm in length. An absolute delight from their point of view. Then the ocean starting calling from further away and before you know it we had mack and longtail tuna or norther bluefin joining the feast of activity. There were also big 1m queenfish amongst the carnage and I'm sure the sharks were lurking thereabouts.

The winning technique was casting 40-60g metal slices into these boils and with a fast retrieve. The idea was to cast from the beach or rocks or in a tinny just off the bust ups with a 40-60m cast required to get the results. It was all so random and nothing I'll forget.

REEF & GAME

Well this is full tilt and the weather has aided like you wouldn't believe. General reef fishing has punched out coral trout to 6kg, large mouth nannygai to 8kg, golden trevally to 7kg plus multiple cobia and spanish mackerel just to name a few. Moderate tides leading into the moons and just after have been premium.

The game fishing scene is in absolute full swing. The game fleets are back to back with bookings. There's been a couple of swings in momentum but when it's happening there's a lot of big black marlin out there. Just talking with a local skipper he was saying because of the water clarity he could see a 900lb female with a dozen smaller males trying to mate from the flybridge. He's never seen anything like it.

So each day has been different in regards to overall numbers of fish being caught but highly positive when it comes to plan.

As you would have read the annual Port Douglas Marlin Challenge is on this month from the 18th-21st November with around a dozen of the best boats in Australia and skippers competing for around 50K in cash prizes.

We'll have a full outcome in next month's fishing report edition.

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