

CRUISING THE CORAL COAST

9TH EDITION UPDATE TO MID 2017

In the interest of clarity, ports and anchorages update notes refer directly to the page numbers of the relevant charts in this book. Changes to text are noted as such.

General Remarks. The last update for this edition of *Cruising the Coral Coast* was in 2014, the same year as the book's 9th edition release. The updates were to warn readers of the damage and changes caused by the devastating floods of 2011 and 2013. This update is broader in its coverage.

Coral Coast and *NSW Coast* are available from most Queensland and NSW chandleries as well as *The Navigation Centre* in Townsville, *Cairns Charts and Maps* and *The Chart and Map Shop* in Fremantle, WA.

Boat Books Pty Ltd are this book's sole distributor. It's shop also sells direct retail and handles interstate and international mail orders from their new shop at:

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PORTS AND ANCHORAGES

Marine Safety Queensland (MSQ) has ceased publishing its series of aerial-photo colour charts, however a private company sells a similar publication through most marine outlets and newsagents.

Page 14. Text Only. The official *Tide Tables* was dumped in hard copy during 2014 but was expected to be back in print from 2015 onwards. Meanwhile, a privately published tide book for the whole coast is available from chandleries and some newsagents.

Page 43. Woogoompah Island channel was dredged around 2014, a recent running survey suggesting a return to 0.9 metres LWS being inevitable. Fortunately the area experiences tides whose range is a little higher than other tide stations in this area.

Page 54. The heading 'Queensland Squadron' should read 'Queensland Royal Yacht Squadron'

Page 72. The directional intense white light showing the best depths over Wide Bay Bar should be used with caution: Evidence suggests that the bar is moving north towards its early 1960's position. Check with Tin Can Bay's *Volunteer Marine Rescue*.

After the bar has been crossed stay on the bar leads until Inskip Point Leads are in line: Do not cut the corner onto the Inskip Point Leads as Middle Bank has shoaled towards the northwest.

Pages 81. Badly silted by the 2013 flash floods, the Mary River entrance around the *Horseshoe Banks* was surveyed by the author late 2015 at which time it had a minimum depth of one metre Low Water Springs. Lateral mark buoys show the way. Depths over *Beaver Rock* shoals further upstream are easily cleared on the same tide used over Horseshoe Banks.

Both slipways in Maryborough are fully functioning but the historic Walkers Engineering shipbuilding shed is to be demolished for safety reasons. *Barry White Welding*, owner of the shed, continues to operate.

Page 90-91. The Burnett River approaches and commercial delta area have been dredged and are fully functional with direct sugar exports again taking place. Upstream from the sugar wharf, the Burnett River is returning to normal after the devastating 2013 floods, however depths have decreased to about 0.3 metres Low Water Springs in *Millaquin Reach* and the leading beacons at the northern end of *Fairymead Reach* have been scrapped: all navigation is now by lateral marks.

Page 132. Captions correction: the two bottom approach pic captions should be interchanged.

Page 127. Advice regarding *Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area* closures are no longer broadcast by VMR stations. Go to www.msq.qld.gov.au/notice to mariners. Or ring MSQ Gladstone, 07 4973 1200.

Page 168. Keswick Island Store has many convenience lines plus coffee, bread, milk, fuel and gas. Phone 07 4965 8060.

Pages 190-191. *Abel Point Marina* is now spelt 'Abell'. The new owner also owns *Port Airlie Marina* where berth construction is progressing.

Page 237. Additional lateral mark buoys have been placed on the Johnstone River approach.

Page 267. Correction: Annon River should read Annan River.

Page 269-70. Cooktown's leading beacons have been removed, dependence now being entirely on lateral marks each side of the dredged entrance channel.

Page 306. Portland Road has a cafe and accomodation. Phone 07 4060 7161.