



**GET HOOKED**

- **What:** Boyne Tannum HookUp - Australia's biggest family fishing competition
- **When:** May 4-6
- **Tickets:** Junior (ages 3-16) \$40, Senior (over 16) \$85
- **Registration closes** May 4 at 3pm.

**FAMILY AFFAIR:** Rob Paxevanos with nine-year-old daughter Hailey holding a monster flathead. Rob will attend this year's Boyne Tannum HookUp and will also film an episode of Fishing Australia while he's in Gladstone. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## Fishing Australia to film episode at Boyne Tannum HookUp

AUSTRALIAN fishing guru Rob Paxevanos can't wait to visit our region when he headlines the 2018 Boyne Tannum HookUp.

The HookUp is Australia's biggest family fishing competition and gets underway on May 4-6.

Known as the host of long-running television show Fishing Australia, Rob will also film an episode of the show while he's in town.

He's likely to bring an entourage, as all four of his daughters are keen anglers and one of them has already released a fishing book designed for kids.

"I've been wanting to come for near on a decade. I'm very excited to be coming and to be bringing some members of my family as well," Rob said.

"Hailey, 9 is coming with me. She's the star of the Kids Fishing book, which is on its third print run - it's been a huge surprise for us because no one in Australia and possibly further afield had ever written a book for kids by kids.

"She's never caught a big barramundi and the barramundi fishing in Gladstone is exceptional.

"I get to film a lot around Australia and see some amazing fishing, but I'm particularly looking

**“the barra-mundi fishing in Gladstone is exceptional**

— Robo Paxevanos

forward to seeing my daughters catch some of the fish and that bodes well with the family angle of the competition."

Surprisingly, Rob hasn't fished in Gladstone before but has wet a line an hour or two north and south of the region in the past, including 1770.

"I've been wanting to film in the Gladstone Region for some time. There's just some really good (fishing) options here," he said.

"I'm hoping to film either the week before or the week after (HookUp), it just depends on the schedule.

"We want to go for barramundi in the estuaries and if the ocean is good we'll go out for the big mackerel...we'll squeeze as much as we can in during the week of filming.

"A Fishing Australia episode is premiered in very good time slots and it's repeated a lot so we spend a bit of time planning ..."

# Assault charges 'a setup'

**Geoff Egan**

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A GLADSTONE man accused of a vicious prison bashing has been granted bail after claiming the charges are the result of another inmate's vendetta.

Graeme Peter Warde was in prison in March 2016 when another man punched a fellow prisoner in the head.

Brisbane Supreme Court heard the man lay on the floor after the punch and

Inmate says he did not stomp on or threaten prisoner

Mr Warde allegedly stomped on his fingers, head and back, threatened him and demanded a \$50 weekly payment.

The court heard the man did not tell authorities about the alleged assault for months and Mr Warde was not interviewed about it for about a year.

In court on Friday, Mr Warde denied being

**“I'm innocent, your honour. I did not do this. Where is the CCTV footage?”**

— Graeme Peter Warde

involved and said another inmate had set him up.

He said a statement the prosecution relied on that

he had stomped on the man's fingers was a

"complete fabrication".  
"I'm innocent, your

honour. I did not do this," Mr Warde said.

"Where is the CCTV footage?"

Mr Warde said he wanted to quit drugs to prove to his children that he could.

The court heard Mr Warde had been behind bars awaiting trial for more than nine months.

Justice David Boddice

said Mr Warde risked spending more time behind bars waiting to be tried than he would be sentenced to if he was found guilty.

Mr Warde was granted bail but given a curfew, ordered to live at a Gladstone address, stay off drugs, submit to random police drug tests and do anger-management courses with a doctor.

— NewsRegional



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