



FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

NPA Environment Centre

March 29, 2019

Fishing For The Past



Dr Julian Pepperell on the water

Casting nets and lines into Australia's early colonial history, Dr Julian Pepperell, this week's guest speaker at Noosa Parks Association's Friday Environment Forum, draws on his life's work as a fisheries scientist to tease out the earliest written and visual accounts of fishing around the Australian Coast by the very first Dutch, English and French explorers.

"How have our coastal fish populations fared over the past 200 to 300 years? Using similar methods and locations, would the same fish be caught today?" asks Dr Pepperell in his new book *Fishing for the Past*. The answers are sometimes surprising!

"For tens of thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans, Aboriginal people had been fishing with spears, hooks, nets and traps. These activities were also recorded in journals and diaries, and by gleaning these records we can learn how the original inhabitants of this land fished at the time of first contact" writes Dr Pepperell.

Dr Pepperell is a well-known marine biologist, holding an Honours degree in Science and a PhD in Ecology. Together with private and government sectors he has conducted research projects on many aspects of sportfish fisheries, with an emphasis on billfish, tuna and sharks. His book will be available for purchase on the day.

To learn more about all things fishy, join the audience at the Environment Centre, 5 Wallace Drive, Noosaville from 10.30am to 12.15pm. Coffee will be on offer from 10am.

**Investigate the birds of
Wallace Park with Valda and
the Interpretive Birding Group.
Meet at 8.30am in the car park.
All welcome**

