

Did You Know?

HOW DID THE CORAL COAST GET ITS NAME?



As a member of the former Burnett Shire Council's Tourism Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) in 1998, I proposed that our region needed a coastal identity to fill a gap which existed on the Queensland Coast. At the time there was the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Fraser Coast and then there was a gap to the Discovery Coast and Capricorn Coast.

The proposal went to community consultation with a variety of submissions received. These were shortlisted to Tranquility Coast, Burnett Coast, Paradise Coast, Sugar Coast, Rum Runner's Coast, Turtle Coast, Coral Coast and a couple more that I can't remember.



Although the Mayor of the day, Cr. Bill Neubecker favoured the 'Burnett Coast', Innes Park resident Pat Orvard and I successfully moved the recommendation of the 'Coral Coast' which the Council eventually adopted. We favoured the name because of the unique coral reefs that adorn the sections of basalt shoreline between Elliott Heads and Burnett Heads.

Over the years, 'Coral Coast' has been adopted into the names of numerous local businesses and organisations and whilst it may not be unique within Australia (there's another Coral Coast in WA), it does quite clearly give us our own identity within this section of the Queensland coastline. The combination of volcanic basalt (courtesy of The Hummock), longshore tidal currents and ideal ocean temperatures all contribute towards the shoreline coral growth.

