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Bring a fish to market

Fishing and seafood have been a lifelong passion for Warren Brandes. A Batemans Bay local, Brandes makes the two-hour trip to the Capital Region Farmers Market each Saturday to sell his catch to Canberra residents.

Growing up in Batemans Bay, Brandes began fishing as a young boy and it was only natural for it to become his livelihood. "As long as I can remember, I've always fished," he says. "I guess growing up in a small coastal community, fishing is a way of life. Plus, Batemans Bay is a great place for fishing."

Under the banner of Warren's Fresh Seafood, Brandes and his wife Bernadette sell a range of fish, including flathead, silver dory, blue grenadier, snapper, leather jacket and sea bream. Also popular are his fresh prawns, lobsters, Clyde River oysters and mussels.

He's also started selling marinated smoked tuna, prepared by a butcher in Bermagui, in flavours such as cracked pepper, lemon pepper and garlic.

"We catch most of the seafood ourselves using our own trawler," he says, "so the seafood is literally straight from the ocean to the market. There's no middle man."

Brandes has been at the market since it began about four years ago and usually sells more than 100kg of seafood at his Saturday morning stall.

■ This article was contributed by the Capital Region Farmers Market.