

# Newsletter

**Volume 17 Issue 9**  
**April 2014**

**Winner of the March 2014 Photo Competition**



**Mick Jewry with a nice Arno Bay Snapper**

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# About the Club

The Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc. is a sport fishing club that endeavours to promote a social awareness among its members, single or family. General meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at the **Eastlakes Football Club No 3 Oxley St Griffith ACT** beginning at 7:30pm. All members and visitors are most welcome.

Members of the Canberra Fisherman's Club are eligible to set Club Records and, upon payment of an Australian National Sport fishing Association (ANSA) affiliation fee, also able to set Australian records, and World records (through ANSA affiliation with the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA)).

## Aims of the Club

- To promote sport fishing
- To foster the art of angling
- To teach the art of angling to new members and particularly juniors
- To promote the study and conservation of fish species and the environment
- To co-operate with and support other bodies with similar aims and ideals.

The Club also supports the Recfish Australia National Code of Practice for Recreational and Sport Fishing, which endorses:

1. Quickly and correctly returning unwanted or illegal catch to the water
2. Quickly killing fish that are kept for consumption
3. Using only appropriate, legal tackle, attending gear and valuing the catch
4. Taking no more than our immediate needs
5. Supporting and encouraging activities that preserve, restore and enhance fisheries and fish habitat
6. Understanding and observing all fishing regulations and reporting illegal fishing activities
7. Preventing pollution and protecting wildlife by removing rubbish
8. Taking care when boating and anchoring to avoid damage to wildlife and habitat
9. Using established roads and tracks
10. Reporting environmental damage
11. Avoiding unnecessary interactions with wildlife species and their habitats
12. Practising courtesy towards all those who use inland and coastal waters
13. Obtaining permission from landholders and traditional owners before entering their land
14. Caring for our own safety and the safety of others when fishing.

# President's Report

Hi Everyone,

Firstly, a big congratulations to all that participated in the 2014 Canberra Carp-Out. It is the Canberra Fisherman's Club's yearly opportunity to do something for our local community and local environment – and we certainly achieved it this year!

This year there was a massive increase in the number of entries and a massive increase in the volume of carp removed from Lake Burley Griffin – and the event ran like clockwork! Once again, I'd like to thank all the volunteers that helped out on the day and on the weekends leading up to the event. I really believe that what sets our club apart from the rest is the number of members that pitch in to make events like this happen – for the second year in a row I was able to put together a roster to give members plenty of time to go fishing between shifts. Well done everyone!

Special thanks has to go to Chris Head for pulling it all together and John Bosch for getting the computer systems tuned up – he had the final results printed out within seven minutes of the last fish being weighed in. What a phenomenal result!

Looking ahead, there's only a few months left in the annual Club Championship and the fishing has been getting better each day. I've ducked down to the Lake a few times since the Carp-Out and have been blown away by a couple of monster carp and I've heard many reports of good-sized mahi mahi and kingfish being caught on the south coast. The Club Competition is still wide-open, so let's flood the Recorder with capture forms!

The next outing (24/25 May) is to Kalkite at Lake Jindabyne. This is a great time of year to be up there as the trout feed up in preparation for spawning and for some reason the Brook Trout seem to go on the bite. Last time we had an outing up there in May (2012), most fish caught were Brookies and Karen caught an Australian Record Brook. Accommodation up there can sometimes be a bit tricky, so make sure your name is down on the list as soon as possible to reserve a bed.

In June, the Club makes the traditional trip to Narooma on the long weekend. This is always a popular outing, with heaps of Salmon on the beaches and (sometimes) Yellowfin Tuna on the shelf. After the success of the March outing, the Club has again booked a gamefishing charter boat (Nitro) for the Saturday. There is only space for 5-6 members, so let us know quickly if you're interested (make a note on the outings sheet at the next meeting).

The next Club meeting will be held on 13th May and is guaranteed to be more interesting than televised coverage of the Federal Budget. Keeping with tradition, we will discuss dates for next year's (2014-15) club outings. It's important that the Club Outings go to places where the fish are biting and where you'd like to go – so come along and have your say! We will also discuss target species for next year's Total Length Award Competition at the May meeting. Judging from the level of interest in the 2013-14 competition, carp have been a great success in the freshwater section, and flathead in the saltwater section, but is it time for a change? What species do you think we should target in 2013-14?

Don't forget our Lucky Membership Draw – last month's winner was Ryan Bosch, but he wasn't there, so the jackpot for May is \$125. Make sure you're there to be in the running!

Keep safe on the water,

Glen



# Secretary's Report



Sarah and Glen at the Canberra Connect and Participate Expo at the Kingston Bus Depot Markets on 29 March 2014

Hi everyone,

March has been a busy month with the Canberra Connect and Participate Expo and the Kid's Fishing Clinic on 29 March 2014 and the Canberra Carp-Out on 30 March 2014. Thank you to all the members of the Canberra Fisherman's Club and their wives, partners and family members assisted prior to and on the day. Some family members flew all the way from Queensland to help out.

Canberra Carp-Out was a huge success, with attendance up 45% from last year, with visitors coming from places as far as Wodonga, Wyong, Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie and Sydney. Just over 1.4 tonnes of fish were weighed and turned into fertiliser. Sarah is still waiting on the last few invoices and deposits to come through so I don't know the exact amount of monies raised for the Cancer Support Group ACT Eden Monaro's Own and for Fish Stocking Raffle. However, I understand the we may have raised more money than last year.

The Canberra Connect and Participate Expo was held at the Bus Depot Markets the day before and was an opportunity for the public to learn about the different clubs and societies in Canberra. It also provided the Club with one last chance to promote the Canberra Carp-Out and sell more fish stocking raffle tickets.

## ***Murray Crayfish***

Last month, I mentioned that the Interim Order for Murray Crayfish that was issued on 8 August 2013 which permitted a daily limit of two Murray Crayfish and a possession limit of four expired on 8 February 2014. The NSW Department of Primary Industries proposes to



issue a new Interim Order to continue those daily bag and possession limits and has issued a Species Impact Statement which you can view on <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/species-protection/conservation/what-current/vulnerable-species/murray-crayfish/submissions>. Please remember, Murray Crayfish are protected in the Australian Capital Territory and the proposed Interim Order only will only apply in New South Wales.

### ***Southern Bluefin Tuna***

The NSW Government is proposing to reduce the current bag limits for Southern Bluefin Tuna to one fish per person, a boat limit of two fish per boat, and a charter limit of six fish per charter boat. The Club lodged a submission opposing the proposed changes.

### ***NSW Regional Boating Plans***

For boat owners in the Club, the NSW Department of Transport's latest survey may interest you, particular if there is a boat ramp you regularly use that is in need of upgrade or repair. The Maritime Management Centre within Transport for NSW together with Roads and Maritime Services is undertaking a state-wide study of existing boating facilities and safety measures to inform the development of Regional Boating Plans for each of the major waterways in NSW.

There is a separate survey for each of the 11 regions. Shoalhaven-Illawarra Region survey closes on 30 March 2014, while the Far South Coast Region closes on 11 May 2014 and Murray Riverina Region closes on 20 April 2014. To complete the surveys or to find out more, go online at <http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/engagement/nsw-regional-boating-plans>.

### ***Proposed changes to Commercial Fishing***

This is becoming a bit tiresome but after the SBT and Murray Crayfish consultations, the NSW DPI are now calling for submissions on proposed changes to commercial fishing. You can find more information at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/commercial/reform>. There are 11 discussion papers requiring comments by 19 May 2014.

I am most grateful to Glen who will prepare the Club's submission as these proposals are likely to adversely impact on the future of recreational fishing in NSW.

### ***May meeting***

Bring your tide charts and fishing almanacs at the May General Meeting as we will set the dates of next year's outings. Many outings now are regular fixtures but please bring your outing venue suggestions to the meeting. I will be nominating Fraser Island again. It's been knocked back six times previously but hope springs eternal!

Anthony Heiser



# Recorder's Report

Hello again all,

This month's captures were dominated by the Nowra outing and an impromptu carp catching session by a few members a couple of weekends ago.

The Nowra convention saw a spread of the usual estuary species with Chris Head's Black Bream being the stand out capture. I had a ball fishing with my brother on the Friday before the outing while the weather was half decent. Over the course of the weekend somewhere around 80 Flathead passed through the boat. My brother went home with a decent feed, a large number of undersized (I call anything under 40 undersized) versions went back and a few too large to keep (55+ for me) joined them. We also had a ball with 40+ cm Tailor, getting 4 in to the boat. But since we didn't have wire traces with us it quickly proved an expensive exercise. There's a write up of the outing in this edition so I'll leave the rest up to that.

I don't have a lot more to add other than to say that the year is rapidly coming to an end so get those capture sheets in if you want to have a chance at the club competitions.

That's it for another month. I'll see you on the water!

John.



# Club Championship

## Open

Glen Malam	749
Chris Clark	609
Mel Marlborough	562
Chris Head	427
Anthony Heiser	339

## Ladies

Mel Marlborough	562
Karen Malam	134
Coralie Teer	71
Rose Davis	38

## Junior

Kyle Walton	290
Connor Davis	191
Tom Stanfield	106
Daniel Clarke-Seel	30

## Land Based

Chris Clark	549
Anthony Heiser	339
Colin Clark	265
Chris Head	237
Steve Bailey	196

## Fresh Water

Mel Marlborough	562
Anthony Heiser	282
Steve Bailey	268
Connor Davis	191
Glen Malam	191

## Salt Water

Chris Clark	609
Glen Malam	558
Colin Clark	311
Chris Head	278
Greg Davis	222

## Most Versatile Angler

Anthony Heiser	11
Chris Head	9
Glen Malam	8
Chris Clark	7
Colin Clark	7

## Salt Water Length

*(Bartailed Flathead, Dusky Flathead, Sand Flathead, Tiger*

Brian Stacy	19,305
Susan McNiece	8,645
John Bosch	6,805



Kyle Walton	5,700
Kevin Spriggs	4,560

### Fresh Water Length *(European Carp)*

Luke Robbie	5,660
Daniel Clarke-Seel	2,610
Timothy Jones	2,425
Zane Zhao	1,070

## Board Fish

Albacore	2.70 Kg	Greg Davis
Atlantic Salmon	1.07 Kg	Keith Smith
Australian Bonito	1.22 Kg	Glen Malam
Australian Salmon	3.04 Kg	Colin Clark
Barramundi	25.00 Kg	Steve Bailey
Black Bream	0.75 Kg	Chris Head
Brook Trout	0.56 Kg	Anthony Heiser
Brown Trout	2.10 Kg	Keith Smith
Dusky Flathead	5.60 Kg	Kevin Spriggs
Estuary Perch	1.10 Kg	Kyle Walton
European Carp	5.62 Kg	Mel Marlborough
Fiddler Ray	2.89 Kg	Chris Clark
Golden Perch	1.91 Kg	Connor Davis
Hairtail	1.69 Kg	Chris De La Rue
Hammerhead Shark	2.73 Kg	Colin Clark
Leatherjacket	0.94 Kg	Zane Zhao
Luderick	0.67 Kg	Greg Davis
Morwong	1.50 Kg	Brian Stacy
Mulloway	3.09 Kg	Keith Smith
Murray Cod	7.68 Kg	Daniel McNece
Rainbow Trout	0.72 Kg	Steve Bailey
Silver Trevally	0.60 Kg	Kristin O'Neill
Snapper	2.66 Kg	Glen Malam
Swallowtail Dart	0.61 Kg	Anthony Heiser
Tailor	1.10 Kg	Colin Clark
Tarwhine	0.57 Kg	Anthony Heiser
Yellowfin Bream	0.60 Kg	Zane Zhao
Yellowtail Kingfish	7.98 Kg	Colin Clark

## Best Fish

### Fresh Water

#### European Carp

5.62kg on 1 Kg

Mel Marlborough

### Blue Water

#### Snapper

2.66kg on 3 Kg

Glen Malam

### Estuary

#### Dusky Flathead

4.69kg on 1 Kg

Glen Malam

### Rocks

#### Australian Salmon

1.36kg on 2 Kg

Shane Jasprizza

### Beach

#### Australian Salmon

1.91kg on 1 Kg

Chris Clark

## All Tackle Championship

### Open

Anthony Heiser	30
Kevin Spriggs	17
Greg Davis	16
Jon Vogel	15
Glen Malam	15
Keith Smith	15

### Junior

Tom Stanfield	4
Connor Davis	3
Sebastian Davis	2
Lilly McNiece	2
Justin McNiece	2
Tyson Davis	2
Kyle Walton	2

## Soon to Expire Scales

36	Clark, Chris	Rapala Digital	8 Kg	27/06/2014
75	Clark, Chris	Rapala Digital	25 Kg	27/06/2014
80	Davis, Greg	Rapala Digital	25 Kg	6/06/2014
99	Smith, Keith	Crane Sports		27/06/2014
118	Magassy, Albert	Rapala Digital	25 Kg	27/06/2014
119	Murray, Bruce	Trac	10 Kg	27/06/2014

**When giving me scales to test please provide a new battery with them as well. Your scales have a better chance of passing if the battery is fresh, and it's worth replacing it once a year anyway!**

# News & Stories

## The Canberra Carp-Out

By Anthony Heiser

The Canberra Carp-Out is a family-friendly fishing event at Lake Burley Griffin held 30 March 2014. It promotes recreational fishing in the ACT, educates people about the adverse environmental impact of carp and redfin, and raises money for the Cancer Support Group ACT Eden Monaro's Own and stocking native fish in ACT lakes.

Although the event did not officially kick off until 8.30 am, an army of volunteers from the Canberra Fisherman's Club, Tackle World Canberra, and ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group arrived at Lennox Gardens at 6.30 am to set up the Carp-Out Head Quarters, the Weigh-in Tent, and the registration tent.



The Carp-Out set up at Lennox Gardens. Left: Jerrabomberra Community Bank kindly supplied the marquee for the online registration and fish stocking raffle sales tent. Right: The Carp-Out HQ, First Aid Tent, Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD display, and the Weigh-in Tent in the background.

Marquees for the Carp-Out Head Quarters and the Weigh-in Tent were hired from Barlens Hire, Toilets were hired from Canberra Hire Pty Ltd, and Action Buses supplied tables and chairs for the volunteers. St Johns Ambulance provided a First Aid Tent and four First Aid Officers. Volunteers from the ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group ran a sausage sizzle and sold cold drinks at the registration tent.



Left: Volunteers Sarah Borman and Shane Jasprizza assisted 253 participants who waited till the last minute to register for the Canberra Carp-Out. Right: St Johns Ambulance First Aid Officers Nathanael Semmler, Sally Smith, Loz Flett, and Lachlan Weeks were on hand to provide first aid in the event of an accident or injury. Fortunately, there were no reports of accidents or injuries this year.





Kristin O'Neill and Coralie Teer assisting participants who registered online.

Registrations opened at 8.30 am and fishing officially commenced at 9.00 am. In previous years, approximately 20% to 30% of participants register for the Carp-Out on the day. Rainy weather again dominated the lead up to the Carp-Out, resulting in 28% of people still left it to the last minute to register on the day. An army of volunteers assisted over 250 people complete registration forms, collect registration fees and key in registration details into the computer database.

The Weigh-in Station opened at 10.00 am. Fish were required to be humanely dispatched prior to weighing. Volunteers from the Canberra Fisherman's Club inspected all fish before allowing competitors to proceed to the Weigh-in Station.



Left: Romen Dicodski thrilling the crowds with his Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD display. Right: Anglers lining up to weigh in their fish. Canberra Fisherman's Club volunteers inspected all fish passing the blue marquee in the background to ensure all fish had been humanely dispatched.

Keying in data on captures was again made easy with the use of bar code scanners to automatically register captures against bar codes on registration cards issued to participants.



This allowed data on captures to be automatically recorded, dispensing with the need to manually key them into the computer database.



Zane Zhao and Adam Martin weighing in Fin McCarthy's 4.73 kg European Carp at the Weigh-in Tent.

Once the fish were weighed, they were disposed of in bins provided by the Mulloon Institute and transported to Mulloon Creek Natural Farm (between Bungendore and Braidwood) to be turned into organic fertiliser. Mulloon Creek Natural Farms is a grazing, cropping and carbon building enterprise covering two farms in close proximity to each other on the Mulloon Creek, east of Canberra. Both properties are organic using the biodynamic system of agriculture. Mulloon Creek Natural Farm is a member of Biological Farmers of Australia.



Left: Zane Zhao disposing of carp into the bins supplied by the Mulloon Institutes. Right: Bins being loaded onto the trailer to be transported to Mulloon Creek Natural Farm to be turned into organic fertilizer.

Lennox Gardens was a popular spot for anglers and, accordingly, the bike path at Lennox Gardens was closed to traffic in accordance with a Traffic Management Plan with Territories

and Municipal Services to ensure the safety of both anglers and cyclists. Care Traffic donated their time and resources to set up the road closure under the Traffic Management Plan.



Anglers fishing off the bank at Lennox Gardens.

Fishing finished at 3.00 pm and competitors were given until 3.30 pm to make their way to the registration tent to weigh in their fish and only a couple of anglers missed the 3.30 pm deadline. Unlike the previous year, there were no technical glitches with the computers and presentations commenced on time at 4.00 pm.



Left: The queue to the Weigh-in Station. Fishing ended at 3.00 pm and anglers had until 3.30 pm to get to the Weigh-in Station to weigh in their fish. Right: Kevin Spriggs supervising curious onlookers at the Weigh-in Station.



A total of 920 fish weighing 1,432.22 kg were weighed in on the day. The average weight per fish was 1.56 kg.

Species	Quantity	Total weight	Heaviest	Average weight
European Carp	744	1,411.28 kg	7.84 kg	1.90 kg
Redfin Perch	176	20.94 kg	0.71 kg	0.12 kg
<b>Total</b>	920	1,432.22 kg		1.56 kg

The top five captures for adult males, adult females, junior males and junior females were as follows:

#### Top five adult males

Petar Josifoski	European Carp	7.84 kg
Daniel Edwards	European Carp	7.19 kg
George Dugandzic	European Carp	5.54 kg
Lindsay Murphy	European Carp	5.32 kg
Chris Garven	European Carp	4.94 kg

#### Top five adult females

Jessie Leck	European Carp	6.57 kg
Teresa De Pasquale	European Carp	4.75 kg
Danielle Pring	European Carp	4.58 kg
Cathy Scavo	European Carp	4.20 kg
Hollie Ebsworth	European Carp	3.44 kg

#### Top five junior males

Alex Willey	European Carp	5.28 kg
Julian Milkovits	European Carp	4.13 kg
Jesse Ausling	European Carp	4.01 kg
Jesse Ausling	European Carp	3.94 kg
Julian Milkovits	European Carp	3.80 kg

#### Top five junior females

Lily McTiernan	European Carp	4.05 kg
Tara Sweeting	European Carp	3.46 kg
Kyla Baskerville	European Carp	2.97 kg
Kyla Baskerville	European Carp	2.89 kg
Rachel Dawes	European Carp	2.85 kg



Albert Magassey guarding the Presidential Carp Park.



Mick Jewry and Adam Martin getting ready for despatch duties.



Left: Petar Josifoski with a 7.84 kg European Carp. This fish won Petar the prize for Heaviest Carp Adult. Centre: Chris Garven weighing in his 4.96 kg European Carp. Right: Fin McCarthy with a 4.76 kg European Carp.



Left: Jason, Kayla and Josey Ray with a 1.09 kg, 2.77 kg and a 1.47 kg European Carp. Right: Riley and Heath Davis with a 1.15 kg and 1.40 kg European Carp.



Left: Charlie Jabbour with a 3.66 kg European Carp. Right: Jesse Ausling, Anton Polak, and Isobell Polak. Jessie caught three carp, the biggest weighing 4.01 kg and Anton caught two, the biggest weighing 3.1 kg.





Left: Toby Doricic with a 2.07 kg European Carp. Carp-Out participants used all sorts of methods to transport their carp to the Weigh-in Station. Centre: Ricky Rawlings, Ryan Thomas, Mitchell Rawlings with a pink wheelie bin of European Carp. Ricky caught eight carp, the heaviest weighing 3.4 kg. Right: Jeremy Bridger wheeling in a trolley of 18 European Carp, the biggest one weighing 2.82 kg.

The presentation commenced with Canberra Fisherman's Club President Glen Malam thanking everyone for supporting the event. Glen Malam then proceeded with the presentation of the prizes. In addition, Melissa Gardiner, Chief Executive Officer of the Cancer Support Group ACT Eden Monaro's Own, drew the winning tickets for the Canberra Fisherman's Club's fish stocking raffle.



Crowds waiting for Glen to announce the winners of the Carp-Out.



The winners of the 2014 Canberra Carp-Out were as follows:

***Early Bird Winner***



Glen Malam presenting **Charmaine Jennings** with the \$500 early bird cash prize.

***Hourly Mystery Weight Prize – 9.00 am – 10.00 am***



Gary Cairns presents a \$50 Tackle World Canberra Gift Voucher to **Jason Murray**.

**Hourly Mystery Weight Prize – 10.00 am - 11.00 am**



Gary Cairns presents a \$50 Tackle World Canberra Gift Voucher to **Amanda Kyburz**.

**Hourly Mystery Weight Prize – 11.00 am 12.00 pm**



Gary Cairns presents a \$50 Tackle World Canberra Gift Voucher to **James Gill**.



**Hourly Mystery Weight Prize – 12.00 pm - 1.00 pm**



Gary Cairns presents a \$50 Tackle World Canberra Gift Voucher to **Lynette Vanaalst**.

**Hourly Mystery Weight Prize – 1.00 pm - 2.00 pm**



Gary Cairns presents a \$50 Tackle World Canberra Gift Voucher to **Paul Jones**.

### **Heaviest Carp Adult**



Glen Malam presenting a Rod and Reel Combo from Tackle World Canberra and a DVD from Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green and Gold to **Petar Josifoski** for his 7.84 kg European Carp

### **Heaviest Redfin Adult**



Glen Malam presenting a Tackle World Canberra Rod and Reel Combo & a Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD to **Angus Patterson** for 0.71 kg Redfin Perch.



### ***Heaviest Carp Junior Boy***



Glen Malam presenting a Rod and Reel Combo from Tackle World Canberra and a DVD from Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green and Gold to **Alex Willey** for his 5.28 kg European Carp

### ***Heaviest Redfin Junior Boy***



Glen Malam presenting a Tackle World Canberra Rod and Reel Combo & a Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD to **Codey Flack** for his 0.37 kg Redfin Perch.



### ***Heaviest Carp Junior Girl***



Glen Malam presenting a Tackle World Canberra Rod & Reel Combo & a Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD to **Lily McTiernan** for her 4.05 kg European Carp.

### ***Heaviest Redfin Junior Girl***



Glen Malam presenting a Tackle World Canberra Rod & Reel Combo & a DVD from Fish Strike Productions – Googong Green & Gold DVD to **Kira Dawes** for her 0.35 kg Redfin Perch.

### ***Mystery Weight Bag of Redfin***



Glen Malam presenting a Large Tackle Box set from Tackle World Canberra to **A J Neal** for his 0.23 bag of Redfin Perch

### ***Corporate Challenge***



Team **Holy Carp** consisting of **Shane Baker, Robbie Johnston, Emily Kelly, Adam New** and **Hung Nguyen** caught a total of **5.09 kg** of carp



The winner of the \$5,500 Boat Package sponsored by Queanbeyan Marine and Tackle World Canberra for a carp of 2.518 kg carp was Jessie Leck.



Gary Cairns standing next to Mystery Weight Prize Winner Jessie Leck with Liam Leck in the \$5,500 boat package sponsored by Tackle World Canberra and Queanbeyan Marine.



Mystery Weight Prize Winner Jessie Leck with Liam Leck in the \$5,500 boat package sponsored by Tackle World Canberra and Queanbeyan Marine.

# A Small Fish Tour of the NSW South Coast

by Tim Jones

Hi All!

I had this great plan to write an article in the first half of this year, that would include fantastic photos of awesome fish I have caught on some great adventure. Sadly life has got in the way of adventures and as a result very few of my fishing sessions have exceeded 2 hours.

But in those times, on various trips I have caught fish, but unfortunately, all the little ones. So many, in fact, that the other titles I came up with for this article were;

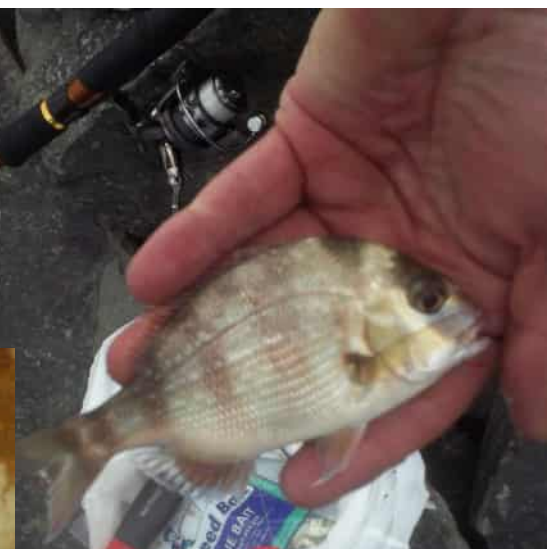
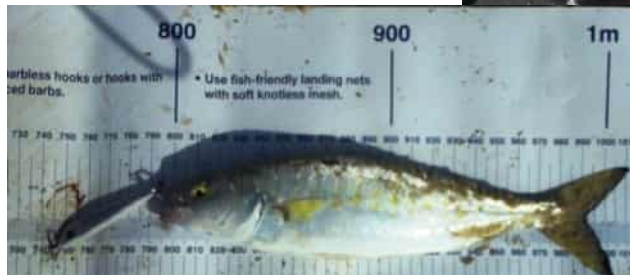
The Small Fish of Wagonga",

"Tathra Tiddlers", or

"Ulladulla's Little Wonders"

Ok, so enough of the funny stuff. In truth it was great to, at least, be catching fish, but wherever I was, it seems the small fish were the only ones feeding. In Tathra in January, the fish were pretty scarce generally in the Bega River. The prawn run was on and I met few fisherman who were catching anything of size. Those catching were using live prawns and landing legal bream and Estuary Perch after dark. Interestingly, I fished beside some of these gentleman with dead prawns, and Zerek prawn lures with no result. My only catches here were small bream in Mogareeka and a 12cm flathead from Tathra beach.

On to Wagonga inlet for the convention. I was taking the risk of combining fishing with my wife's birthday, bless her heart for letting me! Being stuck on terra firma and on Shank's Pony to boot, my movement was limited to the bays around convention HQ, up to the bridge. I was delighted to catch a fish on my first cast, albeit a miniature version of the plague of leatherjackets that were apparently causing so many problems for offshore fisherman. Sadly, this was the first of many of these, and they were responsible for me giving up on fly fishing because they ate all my flies! Walking around this area yielded several more fish (pictured below) but, maintaining the trend, nothing of a worthwhile size.





Such was my luck that on an early morning trip to 1080 beach I decided to try some Dynabait, requiring fresh water. As you can see, I caught possibly the smallest possible flathead simply collecting some water!

Most recently, my wife and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary in Mollymook. Remarkably, I was again allowed to cast a line (yes, I know how lucky I am!). A couple of hours in the Ulladulla harbour and Mollymook beach yielded even more small fish. Don't get me wrong, this time I had an absolute ball catching small, but hard fighting Black Drummer from the rocks off the harbour wall, and further efforts from a jetty near the boat ramp yielded numerous small whiting, snapper and a flounder. Top this off with an almost legal Tailor and a small Wirra and I had quite a time! It would have been better if I had a feed to take home though.....



As I re-read this article I guess it's logical that I should expect some ribbing and possibly even a visit from the 'Rat' over my efforts. But that said, this article shows how healthy our local waterways are and what a range of fish species can be found. Sure I didn't score any fish that will trouble John and his score sheets, but I had a great time, and really that's what this sport is about, isn't it?

Tight lines all!

TJ



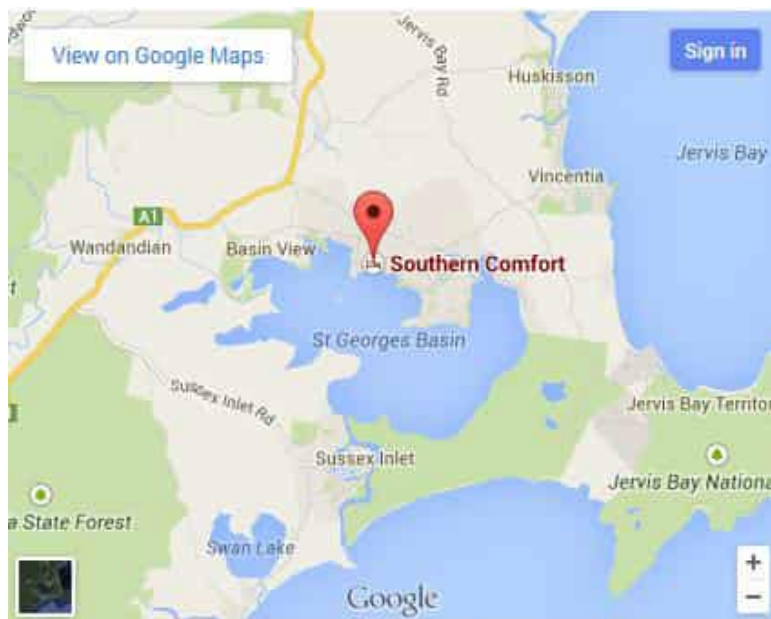
# St Georges Basin Outing

By Chris Head

On the weekend of 11 – 13 April the Club headed off to St Georges Basin at the invitation of the Basin Lure and Fly Club for what was suggested to be an interclub competition. Expectations were high as the Basin had been fishing well and some big fish had been caught in recent times.

A number of members were fortunate enough to have the Friday off and headed down early for a bit of a pre-fish. As it turned out, unbeknown to the rest of us, Friday proved to be the best weather and fishing day of the whole weekend. The rest of the members headed down Friday afternoon or after work, only to be greeted by some ominous clouds and rain as we got closer to the Basin.

Kevin Spriggs, our Outings Officer, excelled himself once again by finding an awesome house with great entertaining facilities that slept up to 12 people. We should have known that with a name like [Southern Comfort](#) that this was going to be a good weekend regardless of the conditions.



On arriving we quickly rushed our gear into the house in between rain showers and then feeling a bit hungry decided to check out the local haunts. John Bosh designated driver, Tony Bosh, Darren, Wendie and I headed down to the local club for a bit of Chinese and a few beverages and to listen to the days fishing stories. This proved to appease one appetite and

wet another as we eagerly anticipated the next day's fishing and the chance to get our share of the Flathead and the big Tailor that we were told about over dinner.

Saturday morning came and by 8:40am no boats had moved as the wind was howling and the rain was pouring down.



I think this may have been one of our most relaxing fishing outings that we have been on, as some enjoyed an unheard of sleep in and a leisurely breakfast, followed by second cup of coffee. After a slight manoeuvring of cars and boats in the long narrow driveway, some of us decided to head off to the local Husky Bakery for another cup of coffee and to taste some of the local treats.



After the bakery, Brian, Coralie, Wendie and I headed to the [Lady Denman Maritime Museum](#). This was an unexpected treat full of lots of maritime history including the restored Lady Denman ferry which is housed within the museum. We were also teased by the large selection of enormous Bream, Flathead and Jewfish which were clearly visible in their large pond where visitors where invited to feed the fish, but unfortunately NO FISHING allowed. We also learnt a lot about the history of the area and proposals for developing the region.

While we were being educated, a number of die hard's braved the conditions and managed to catch a fish or 2. Kevin managed a decent Flathead whilst getting drenched fishing in the Currambene Creek.



Anthony and Adam, determined not to miss out on any of the fun, drove up from Canberra and decided to fish off the jetty at Sussex Inlet and managed a few interesting captures, no fish were hurt but I feel some were traumatised.





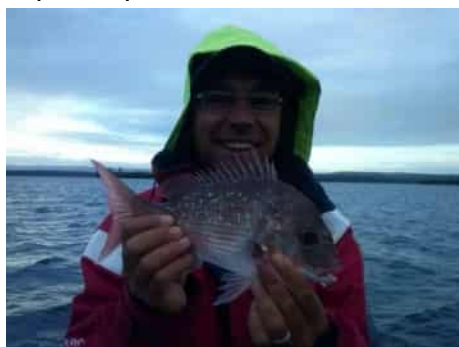
John Bosch and his brother Tony found a quiet spot in the later part of the afternoon which you could only access with a 4WD where they launched their boat. They managed a few Flathead and also a drenching, but we all know that as long as you are catching fish, a drenching is nothing.

A call from Wal and Tony from the [Basin Lure and Fly Anglers](#) with an offer to catch up for a fishing meeting back at our accommodation saw further relaxing over a few beverages and a bit of an insight into the local fishing scene. We even had Darryl Head from [Bay and Basin Sports Fishing](#) drop in for a beer and a chat, plus tell us a bit about the new Lowrance products and offer to do a presentation at a Club meeting into the future. It was great to catch up with some of the local fishing identities.

This was followed by a tasty barbecue dinner and a few more drinks while still being serenaded by the wind, rain and the hope that it might just clear up for tomorrow. After dinner a call went out from Wendie, "who's up for a game of cards" a new competition then began as team Wendie & Co. held the card table for a good many games until I think we got tired and let someone else take control, well that's how we saw it and don't let the truth get in the way of a good story.



Sunday arrived and the 5am risers looked at the weather and closed their eyelids as did the 6amers. By 6:45am a few of us were up for breakfast and looking at what seemed to be a slight improvement in the weather. A quick text to Wal from Basin Lure and Fly Anglers enquiring if they had hit the water, he quickly responded with a yes and a series of fish capture photo's and commented that the Basin View ramp was good to launch from.



This quickly inspired action stations. Cars and boats were packed and we all headed out to launch our boats & kayaks. Wendie and I launched at Basin View and headed around the Islands as suggested by Wal, to find him and Tony anchored up not far from Steve Bailey, drifting and flicking blades with good results. We bladed up for a few small fish then the windy weather started to come up.

Steve had launched at the Island Point Road boat ramp which could get a bit nasty with the windy weather so we pulled up next to Steve and suggested that if it looked bad at the boat ramp he could head around to the Basin View ramp where there would be plenty of helpers to hold his boat so he could get a ride with someone to get his car and trailer – this is what eventuated and Steve was most grateful for the assistance.

Wendie and I headed off to find quieter water out of the wind and found ourselves in the lagoon to the right of the Basin View ramp. The lagoon has some deeper water but we fished in and around 1 meter and were eventually rewarded with a few nice Bream and Flathead. The best being my first Black Bream, all fish were caught on an Ecogear VX35 445 blade.



12pm came around far too quick as we were back at the boat ramp packing up and then joining the Basin Lure and Fly Anglers for a lunchtime barbecue and a chat about the mornings fishing.

We would like to thank Wal, Tony and all the Basin Lure and Fly Anglers for the invite to join them for an inter club comp which unfortunately, due to the weather was short lived. I think everybody enjoyed the weekend and look forward to catching up again later in the year on our home turf for some fresh water fishing action.

Looking forward to more fishing adventures! CH WMc

## Burrinjuck Waters State Park Fishing Report – 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2014

**Current discharge:** 507 ML per day

**Water level current:** 54.2 %

**Current inflow:** 1497 ML per day

**Water visibility:** up to 1 metres in main basin

**Rain last 7 days:** 0 mm

**New Moon:** April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Full Moon:** May 15<sup>th</sup>

**Water Temperature:** 20- 22 deg

**Forecast Weather:** Mostly sunny through the weekend, Temps between 10°C & 20°C for the weekend. Winds up to 14 km/hr from the east on Friday.

**Murray Cod:** We have finally had a few good reports over the Easter weekend. Most fish were caught trolling or casting Spinner baits in around 20 ft. 79 cm was the biggest reported, caught by Dazza from Gundagi Anglers. The main basin and Cathedral Rock area most popular.

**Yellow Belly:** Plenty of fish being caught. The fish bins at the cleaning tables were nearly full most days over the weekend. The yellows have moved from holding on trees out deeper and are now holding on the bottom around the base of the trees in around 10 metres of water. Jigging shrimp, worms, Jackals, Vibes and plastics is all working. For those that like their shrimp fishing, reports of 50 shrimp per trap have been common. Not too many reports from the guys trolling this week. The Bidgee River up to Scrubby was the most popular.

**Redfin:** The odd fish being caught mostly trolling, no big numbers.

**Trout:** No reports

**Park News:** A big thankyou to all those that paid us a visit over Easter. We had some live music on Saturday, Easter egg hunt on Sunday morning a family disco, a movie night and great weather. We certainly had some campers in. There were no disturbances or trouble and Great to have a lot of younger families and children pay us a visit. Thanks again.

Dean Brind  
Manager  
Burrinjuck Waters State Park





## From the Editor

This month I'd like to firstly thank Tim Jones for a great article on his recent experiences fishing the South Coast, which also includes some nice photos. If you think you can do something like that, I'd love to hear from you.

Thanks once again to Anthony for his input, this month he's put together a great article on the recent Carp-Out. It contains some great photos of the Canberra community enjoying our event, and some great shots of our members as they make it such a great day. As I say each month, its articles like these from Anthony and Tim that really make the newsletter.

I'll keep on encouraging everyone to send in your photos for the monthly photo competition, it'll help you hone your fisho-graphic skills, and may make your next tackle purchase a little cheaper.

The winner of the March Photo Competition, as seen on the cover, is Mick Jewry, with a very nice Arno Bay Snapper. Remember, the winners of the monthly photo comp get a \$20 Tackle World Canberra voucher for their winning pic. The rules of the photo comp are:

- Members can submit up to two photos per month
- The photo must either be taken by the member submitting the photo or a photo of the member
- No photo shopping or other digital enhancements are allowed

Preferably, photos should be 300 KB to 2 MB in size. Photos greater than 2 MB will need to be compressed if you are attempting to email them. You can contact me if you need help with compressing photos.

Also if you have some gear to sell, swap, wanted or barter then send through the details.

All of the above should be emailed to [info@canberrafishos.com](mailto:info@canberrafishos.com).

This month's quote is a definition:- "FISH: an animal that grows the fastest between the time it's caught and the time the fisherman describes it to his friends."



Work fills in time between fishing trips!!

Cheers,

Greg Davis

## March Photo Competition



Kristin with another Nowra Flattie



Jon Vogel with a Banjo Shark  
(Aka Eastern Fiddler Ray)



Anthony Heiser – Narooma Kingfish happy  
days!

## March Photo Competition



Mick Jewry with a thumpa 8Kg Snapper, Arno Bay SA



Anthony Heiser – Narooma Snapper for dinner.



## March Photo Competition



Jon Vogel's Tuross sunset with Kevin Spriggs  
paddling

## 2013-2014 Canberra Fisherman's Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

<i>Outing Date</i>	<i>Outing</i>	<i>Monthly Meetings</i>
<b>24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Kalkite	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Narooma	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>26th-27th July</b>	Kioloa / Ulladulla	<b>8th</b>

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