

# Newsletter

## Volume 20 Issue 10

### May 2017

**Winner of the April Photo Competition**



**Anthony Heiser – A very little Brown on Fly**

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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.

It looks like it will be a tight finish to the Club's fishing year with Anthony Heiser and Steve Bailey neck and neck in most Championship categories.

However, the rest of the pack is not far behind, so there's always the chance of a late run by any one of a number of "black horses".

Next month's outing is the traditional Queen's Birthday long weekend trip to Narooma. This outing usually produces some huge Australian Salmon off the beaches, so there's every chance of an upset in the Club Championship.

For those with a boat, I'm still hearing reports of good Kings at the island ... and the Albacore and Bluefin tuna can't be too far away. Whether you fish bluewater, estuaries or the beaches, it should be a great finale to the fishing year.

Our base for the weekend is the Olympic cabins at Island View Caravan Park. The Club will be providing a free barbeque on the Saturday evening, giving members the opportunity to share the day's highs and lows and plan Sunday's fishing. I hope you can make it (there is still space in the shared accommodation, if you're looking for a cheap place to stay).

May is also the month that the committee usually reviews the rules for the annual Club competitions. There are no changes to the rules this year, but we did decide to mix up the eligible species for the total length competition for 2017-18. They will be Australian Salmon for saltwater and salmonoids (trout and atlantic salmon) for freshwater.

The next Club meeting will be held on 13th June (immediately after the Narooma Outing).

Don't forget the Lucky Membership Draw – the name we drew at the May meeting was Colin Clark. Unfortunately, he wasn't there, so the prize jackpots to \$100 for the June meeting.

Make sure you're there to be in the running!

Keep safe on the water,

Glen Malam





# Secretary's Report

For anyone that hasn't renewed their club membership yet, please do so as soon as possible to avoid missing out on everything our club has to offer and this can be renewed through the web site.

With the club spending money over the last few years to improve it as per member's requests, more information is being uploaded to and I encourage you to log in and have a look.

Those that don't have or forgotten their login details please email me

([secretary@canberrafishos.com](mailto:secretary@canberrafishos.com)) and I will reset your password.



For Easter, I went down to Batemans Bay and had four days of fishing. The Clyde was still quite tannin in colour making things difficult even using nippers and live poddy mullet. On the Saturday, it was a bit of afternoon beach fishing for sharks and I got to see Brian's Tagging Program in full force with three, just under one meter Bronze Whalers tagged and released. It is a bit of fun then when you look up the other end of the beach and you see the swimmers watching what we are doing. Brian has had his first recapture certificate for a shark that he had tagged a month earlier in the same location.



On the Sunday, I fished with Brian Stacy and Pablo. We ventured off shore and got one marlin up but not able to hook up. While trolling round, we came across two logs, so quick down size on the lures and we picked up three Mahi Mahi off those two logs.

I attended the St Georges Basin Outing. The numbers were down on previous years and we had to have different accommodation. However, all of us had a good time, with the BBQ on Saturday being Pizza as everyone got back late and we had all been out on Stacy Wildlife Tours.

The June Long Weekend outing (10 – 12 June 2017) is before the next General Meeting and there is plenty of room. Currently, there are only six down to stay in the 18-person cabin. If you are interested, email the Outings Officer on [Committee2@canberrafishos.com](mailto:Committee2@canberrafishos.com) by 30 May 2017. Otherwise, the cabin will need to be changed and let's hope the club gets it's deposit down as it will be too expensive for those attending.

The club needs you as members to think about what the club is doing and are encouraging you to put your hand up for the Committee in August, as I for one will not be putting my hand up again. Six years (I think) is a row is long enough, I don't know how some have done it for longer.

Next general Meeting is on Tuesday 13th June 2017 at Eastlakes.

Tight lines

Kevin Spriggs

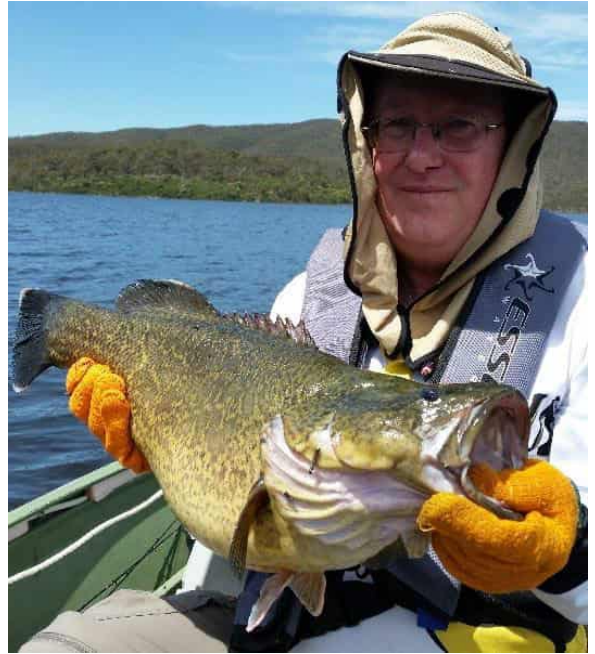
[secretary@canberrafishos.com](mailto:secretary@canberrafishos.com)

# Recorder's Report

Hi Everyone

I hope that you have been able to wet a line in this past month and get some good catches. Remember to send me your captures so that I can enter them into the database. We are approaching the end of our yearly competition so from now on, we will not be publishing the current status of captures so that the final results will be a surprise. There are a number of people that can take out the various prizes so get out there and keep fishing.

So for those of you that fish the ANSA competition I thought I would include an extract from the current ANSA rules book



Mick Peel

## Lines

- a) Non-metallic lines in natural or synthetic only, are permitted, with the only exception to this rule being lines containing a core of the base metal, lead. Wire lines are prohibited.
- b) Signature Pretest Line: This type of line is identified by the appearance of a signature on the spool and a written certification at what weight the line actually broke on testing.
- c) Factory Pretest Line: This type of line will be identified by a statement on the spool to the effect that it is "tested" or "rated" but will not bear a signature or a certification at what weight the line broke on testing. These lines will generally be endorsed with a statement such as "suitable for all ANSA/ IGFA pretest competitions" or "tested to meet IGFA line class requirements etc".
- d) Standard Line: This type of line includes any product that does not meet the definition of either Signature Pretest or Factory Pretest line.

## Breakaway Combinations –

- e) Main Line: Same as for (a) – includes braid and does not need to be pretested. Must be of a heavier breaking strain than the breakaway line.
- f) Breakaway Line: Must be a pretested line and used in conjunction with a main line which must be of heavier breaking strain than the breakaway line. The breakaway line must be of a minimum length of 0.5 metres and a maximum length of 1.5 times the rod length or 1.5 metres when used with a handline.

# Soon to Expire Scales

75	Clark, Chris	Rapala Digital	25 kg	29/05/2017
135	Clark, Colin	Rapala	8 kg	29/05/2017
177	Clark, Chris	Rapala	25 kg	29/05/2017

# Fishing news and competitions

## Nomination forms for Committee positions for the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 9 August 2017

I : .....

Signature : .....

Nominate for the position of *(Circle as appropriate)*

President

Vice President

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Position

Nominated by : .....

Seconded by : .....

I : .....

Would like to nominate : .....

for the award of *(Circle as appropriate):*

Club Member of the Year

Most Meritorious Capture

Most Improved Angler

Most Improved Junior

Gold Badge\*

Life Membership\*\*

Brief details of why this person is being nominated:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Nominated by : .....

Seconded by : .....

(\* Awarded at discretion of Committee)

(\*\*Requires resolution at Special General Meeting)



## The 'other' awards:

Nominations are also open for:

- **The Net Award** – for the worst (or best) fish that is lost due to poor netting skills
- **The Fan Belt** – for the most damage done to one's **vehicle** on a fishing trip
- **The Prop Award** – for the most damage done to one's **boat** on a fishing trip
- **The Where's Wally?** – for going inexplicable missing during a fishing trip
- **The Stirrer's Spoon** – for the wittiest wisecrack – not necessarily an isolated event
- **The Albino Shark** – for the most unusual capture in the year
- **The Mario Manoeuvre** – for losing (or breaking) a rod – generally done on a boat

## The ANSA Freshwater Slam



Fish the three ANSA NSW Freshwater Conventions and register a capture or catch and release in each convention to go in the draw to win a Rapala freshwater lurin' kit valued at \$500.00

Freshwater Convention Dates;

Lake Lyell Convention 19,20,21 May 2017

Glenbawn Convention 15,16,17 September 2017

Burrinjuck Convention 3,4,5 November 2017





ANSA - Australian National Sportfishing  
Association Ltd  
ACN 063 293 514

## 1967 ANSA National News Bulletin May 2017

It's been a little while since my last update on issues concerning ANSA at a National level but I will do my best to bring you up to date on a number of the more important issues.

### Small Pelagic Fishery

As most of you would know the Geelong Star unexpectedly left Australian waters last November and is unlikely to ever return to fish for small pelagic species. The reasons for the Geelong Stars sudden departure from Australia are not clear and our best efforts to get sensible answers have drawn a blank. It is believed that the economics of the fishing operation and a disagreement between the Australian and Dutch partners on future operations of the vessel in Australian waters were influencing factors as was also the release of a Federal Senate report calling on the Federal Government to ban all factory freezer vessels from operating in the Commonwealth managed SPF Fishery and of course the ongoing National campaign by ANSA and other recreational fishing peak bodies under the umbrella of ARFF (Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation) to have the operations of the Geelong Star restricted so that its impact on recreational fishing and the bait fish food chain were minimised.

While it is unlikely that the Geelong Star or another similar sized factory freezer type vessel will again seek approval to operate in the SPF, there is now a new potential threat for this fishery to be exploited. Very recently AFMA (Australian Fisheries Management Authority) was approached by a NSW based business syndicate to give approval to what is termed Pair Trawling for small pelagic species in the south eastern fishery – this was to be a one off approval. As the name implies this style of fishing involves the use of two trawlers to haul a net much larger than would be possible for a single trawler.

While such a style of trawling would not have an extraction impact on par with that of the Geelong Star, it is still concerning that the operations of this trawling activity would very likely be confined to inshore Commonwealth waters off the NSW south coast. Given the need to bring catch to port very quickly due the very perishable nature of target species such as Mackerel, most fishing will take place close to established ports and this potentially will lead to conflict with recreational fishers.

The two trawlers intended to be used for this Pair Trawling fishing operation are significantly smaller than the Geelong Star with a combined fishing holding capacity of around 200 tonne (about 10% of the Geelong Stars capacity) and no on boat processing capacity. Needless to say ANSA and other recreational fishing peak bodies have formally objected to this new concept of fishing and you can view the ANSA submission on the National website at [ansa.com.au](http://ansa.com.au).

This week AFMA surprisingly announced that its Commissioners had decided to determine Pair Trawling as an approved method for fishing under the SPF management plan for an initial 18 month trial period. What this means is that not only will the syndicate that put the Pair Trawling proposal to AFMA be able to fish over the 18 month trial period on the NSW south coast, every SPF quota holder across the nation will also be able to use this fishing methodology throughout the entire SPF zone which runs from South Qld down and around to

WA. While there will be restrictions and monitoring protocols imposed upon the fishery operation by AFMA there is potential for this type of trawling operation to extract even more small pelagic bait fish than was the case for the Geelong Star. ANSA together with other peak bodies will do our collective utmost to ensure that adequate safeguards are in place to ensure that impacts on recreational fishing and the bait fish food chain are minimised. This decision by AFMA creates a whole new dimension to the Pair Trawling proposition and it is disappointing that there was no prior consultation with the recreational sector.

The decision also follows on from an announcement late April by AFMA that the TAC (Total Allowable Catch) for the SPF fishery over the 2017/18 season would be increased from 35100 to 48900 tonnes. Given that some 50% of the 2016/17 TAC was held by Seafish Tasmania, the operator of the Geelong Star, it was hoped that the TAC for the coming season might have been substantially reduced to factor in the exit of the Geelong Star. Rather the increase in TAC can be interpreted as a signal by AFMA to encourage other fishing enterprises to take up the slack created by the departure of the Geelong Star by using the Pair Trawling method.

While the extent of actual SPF take over the 2016/17 season has not yet been made public it is believed that the bulk of the catch would have been made via the Geelong Star as there are only a handful of small commercial fishers working the SPF due to the poor economics of the fishery. AFMA's explanation for increasing the TAC and for determining Pair Trawling as an approved fishing method was supposedly based upon most recent science, risk to the SPF biomass being acceptable, risk for localised depletion being low and that predator species are not highly dependent on SPF species and have a capacity to switch prey and there will be no negative impact upon recreational fishing.

ANSA together with other recreational peak bodies will continue to question the wisdom of this latest round of decision outcomes by AFMA and will closely scrutinise operational regulations for the Pair Trawling process.

### **Commonwealth Marine Reserves**

This continues to be a long and frustrating saga. After several rounds of public consultation since the Coalition government took office and review of a suite of management plans for each of the reserves, we are still at a stalemate in terms of coming up with a management plan that would be acceptable to recreational fishers.

ANSA together with other recreational fishing peak bodies has vigorously campaigned for no lockouts of recreational fishers within these new marine reserves given the absence of any justifiable science. Rather our campaign position has been for recreational fisher access within the reserves be locked into the management plans on the basis that recreational fishers are best placed to act as guardians and custodians of the reserves. We have cited similar international approaches to marine park management where recreational fishing is permitted under a suite of sensible regulations having regard to species and seasonal influences etc and including some no take restrictions. The pragmatic approach used by the US Government when recently establishing the world's two largest marine reserves in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans have been cited as example of best practice for marine reserve management – regulated recreational fishing is allowed across almost the entire reserve system.

It is our understanding that the Coalition government has once again referred the latest draft management plan back to its authors to take on board our locked in – not locked out philosophy and also the Coalitions pre election commitment to not unjustifiably lock recreational fishers out of the new reserve network.

It is expected that the next version of the revised draft management plans will be submitted to the government over July and if deemed politically acceptable, will be put out for another round of public consultation. Feedback from the public consultation process will then be

considered by the government and a final plan then drafted and placed before the Parliament for determination. It is possible that the final plan will be legislated and come into effect towards the end of this year. We can only hope that our campaign over the past decade seeking a fair go for recreational fishers will deliver the right mixture of access outcomes for current and future generations of recreational fishers in our marine reserve networks. You can read ANSA submissions re the Commonwealth Marine Reserves on the National website.

## **Resource Sharing**

This is becoming a hot topic especially now that the IOTC (Indian Ocean Tuna Commission) has set a 2018 deadline for the Australian government to establish a protocol for the sharing of the Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna quota between the commercial and recreational fishing sectors. The IOTC quota set for SBT Australia has historically never taken into consideration the take of SBT by the recreational sector as it was always reported as being insignificant. Recent capture data of SBT by the recreational sector has changed the status quo and the challenge now will be to see how much if any of the Australian SBT quota will be allocated to recreational fishers. A process will also need to be established on how to actually monitor SBT captures by the recreational sector and who will pay for this. Also there is the question of compensation for those current SBT quota holders who will see their allocations reduced to allow for the recreational sector allocation if this eventuates.

This is going to be a very complex issue for the government and already the commercial sector is promoting the argument that the easiest and most cost effective solution is for the entire quota allocation to be directed to the commercial sector. In a nutshell this would mean no more SBT for the recreational sector. Given the political ramifications it is unlikely that the government will follow that course. Whatever the final outcome and the model adopted to share the SBT resource, the reality is that for better or worse, going forward the SBT outcome may serve as a precedent for other Commonwealth managed fisheries where resource sharing is very likely to occur and the expectation that recreational fishers will somehow need to pay their way. Also a number of States are also considering a resource sharing protocol for State managed fisheries and will undoubtedly look to the Commonwealth model. It is imperative that we get the SBT process right.

## **Recreational Fishing Code of Practice**

Nearly a decade ago ANSA adopted the COP developed by Recfish Australia. ANSA played a major stakeholder role in the development of that COP. While the COP has well served the recreational sector it was recognised last year that the COP needed to be reviewed and updated. With funding from the Federal government the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF) did undertake such a review and a new COP is ready for release. ANSA as a member of ARFF did engage in the review process and we are very happy with the final outcome. A national communication process for circulating the COP to all Australian recreational fishers is currently being developed. It is the intention of ANSA to adopt the new COP. This will be on the ANSA website shortly.

## **Legislative recognition of recreational fishing in the Commonwealth Fisheries Management Act.**

The Federal government has finally taken heed of our campaign for recreational fishing to be included in the Commonwealth Fisheries Management Act. It is a matter of fact that while ever we are not officially included and recognised under the Fisheries Management Act we will never have an effective role and voice in the management of Commonwealth Fisheries as a statutory stakeholder. It is our hope that the legislation for recognition of recreational fishing under the Act will come before Parliament later this year. Such an outcome will open the door for recreational fishers to have a stronger and more representative voice on the many management committees (MAC's) already established for Commonwealth managed fisheries



and to have more influence on the development of fishery policies and advancement of the interests of recreational fishing.

## **Establishment of National Recreational Fishing Council**

The Coalition government is committed to the establishment of a National Recreational Fishing Council – this was a pre-election commitment made some 4 years ago. Progress in establishing the right terms of reference for the establishment of this Council has been very drawn out. It is imperative that the structure and terms of reference for the Council embrace the right mix of people, skills and mandate to effectively and constructively represent the interests of recreational fishing to government and those agencies that have a nexus with fishing both recreational and commercial.

What we do not want to see is the establishment of a superficial Council that pays lip service to the interests of the recreational sector as has often been the case with past Councils and the like. It is our goal to see ARFF provide the secretariat function to the Council and select who represents recreational fishers on the Council. Hopefully the Council will be formally established later this year

The role and future of ARFF (Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation) ARFF was established some 4 years ago to serve as the government officially recognised ultimate peak body for all recreational fishers throughout Australia. ANSA is a foundation member of ARFF and occupies a Board position. Currently most major state and national peak recreational fishing bodies are either members or are in the process of becoming ARFF members. Since inception the ARFF has been financially supported by the Australian Fishing Trade Association (AFTA) which is also a member of ARFF.

The advocacy and representative activities of ARFF are very demanding in terms of time and commitment but essential for the collective good of all recreational fishers including ANSA members. The ARFF Board and member bodies come together on a regular fortnightly basis (via conference phone or face to face meetings in Canberra) to discuss and determine strategies on a very broad and diverse range of issues relevant to recreational fishing across all national and state jurisdictions. Meetings with politicians from all spectres and persuasions of government occur regularly as it is paramount that the views and electoral significance of recreational fishing are well implanted into the minds and physic of our elected representatives.

While the financial support provided by AFTA is very welcomed and appreciated the reality is that for ARFF to continue to effectively represent the interest of recreational fishers we need to source a more substantive and assured means of running the organisation. While the government has been supportive of many of projects and issues that ARFF has engaged in, the challenge is for ARFF to be financially independent of government for its advocacy activities. The government has also made it very clear that it wants ARFF to focus attention towards establishing a sustainable funding model for the recreational sector. This will be a major challenge for ARFF and its members over the coming year. You can learn more about ARFF by going to the website [recreationalfishing.com.au](http://recreationalfishing.com.au).

## **2016 AGM and Branch Delegates Meeting**

This event was held in Sydney late October and was well attended by delegates from State Branches across the ANSA Branch, Club and Member networks. A wide and comprehensive range of views on issues and challenges concerning the role of ANSA at a National and State level were constructively exchanged over the two days of the meeting. The entire range of issues and topics covered at the meeting were far too comprehensive to summarise here but this news bulletin will give members some insight into the major issues confronting ANSA at a National and State level. If you want to know more about what is happening at ANSA at a



National and State Branch level, then have a read of the 2016 ANSA Annual report which can be viewed on the National website.

### **Meritorious Capture Awards**

One of the more enjoyable challenges for those attending the 2016 AGM and Delegates was choosing the winner of the 2015/16 Meritorious Capture Award. It finally came down to 2 nominations, both from South Australia – a 128.63 kg Southern Bluefin Tuna on 37kg (Blue water) capture by Paul Wolfdale and a 4.99kg Mulloway on 1kg (Land Based) capture by Shane Evans. The story behind both these captures was amazing and it was impossible for the delegates to select a clear winner. Ultimately it was unanimously agreed that the award be shared by both Paul Wolfdale and Shane Evans. Congratulations are extended to both award winners. If you want to read and know more about these great capture stories go to the ANSA website - Meritorious Captures.

### **Recognition of the late Geoff Hawkins**

As a fitting gesture to recognise the lifetime contribution to ANSA by the late Geoff Hawkins, the Delegates unanimously agreed that the Meritorious Capture awards now be renamed the Geoff Hawkins Meritorious Capture Awards. You can be sure Geoff would be thrilled by this gesture.

### **Membership Fees for the coming 2017/18 Year**

It has been agreed that the fees payable to ANSA National for the coming membership year will remain at the current level, namely:

Family Membership	\$12
Senior Members	\$8
Student Members	\$3
Junior Members	Free

Branches should now be able to set their own fees for the coming 2017/18 membership year.

### **ANSA Merchandise**

A fresh stock of 1.2m ANSA Capture and Release Brag mats has now arrived and available to members at the same price of \$13 per unit plus postage \$5. These Brag Mats were sourced from the same supplier as previous stock and are of a superior quality. Orders for Brag Mats and other ANSA Merchandise can be ordered online via the ANSA website – ANSA Shop link.

### **2016 ANSA Rule Books**

Should your Branch or club require additional stocks of the latest 2016 ANSA Rule Book (with all the latest rule changes) then drop a line to John Burgess (abtrap@yahoo.com.au ) detailing how many you need and a mailing address. There is no charge for Rule Books.

### **ANSA 50th Year Anniversary**

ANSA will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year with a special event to be held in Cairns, where the ANSA story began in 1967. The event will embrace a National Conference on Sportfishing featuring an expo of historic ANSA memorabilia, a fishing competition and a fishing expedition – all designed to bring together like minded young and old ANSA sportfishers and their families from across Australia to celebrate and reflect on the past and contemplate the future of sportfishing.

The event will kick off with an informal BBQ on Friday 22 September at the Figtree Tanks Art Centre – 46 Collins Ave Edge Hill. This will be followed on Saturday and Sunday by a 2 day Conference and Sportfishing expo also at the Tanks Art Centre. A formal dinner will be held on the Saturday evening. On Monday conference attendees can stay on and join in a fishing competition with locals in the Cairns Net Free Zone encompassing Trinity Inlet and the Barwon River. If one days fishing isn't enough to satisfy your appetite then you will have the opportunity to join in a 4 day fishing expedition to the Hinchinbrook channel from Tuesday through to Friday 26 - 29 September.

If you are contemplating a trip to Cairns for this celebratory event then it is advisable you get in early to arrange flights and accommodation. Also if you have any historic ANSA material that could be featured at the expo then please get in touch with Nathan Johnston (president@ansaqld.com.au) or John Burgess (abtrap@yahoo.com.au).

Registration fees are \$34 for ANSA Members and \$99 for others – this includes the Friday BBQ, Conference and Expo attendance and Saturday evening dinner. If you want to know more about the event or to register on line go to [ansaqld.com.au/ansa-50 th/](http://ansaqld.com.au/ansa-50th/) .

Sorry for this update being so lengthy but there were so many issues that warranted being brought to members notice. I hope you enjoy the read.

Regards

John Burgess  
Executive Officer/ Director  
ANSA National Ltd

# News & Stories

## Living the dream

by Brian Stacey



Another lazy afternoon at Surfside Beach

It was just over two and a half years that I made the sea change and move to the Bay where I have a dream right back in the late 70s to live on the coast.

It would be about ten years that I became a part of the Canberra Fisherman's Club, where through the club, I have honed my fishing skill and have learnt new and better ways to fish.

One of these is tagging fish. If I am not out in the boat, you will find me with my neighbour and friend sitting on Surfside Beach with a line in the water and beer in hand living the dream.

As the weather and water temperature warms up, the baitfish start to move in and the predators come in after them. I have landed small Hammerhead Shark and the four of us have caught over 200 Bronze Whalers off the beach since December.



Oyster wash up with beer on the beach



Not all have been tagged. All tagged shark were caught within 20 meters and yes they are just outside the breaker line and yes, there are swimmers within 20 meters of where we fish.

One of my sharks I tagged back on 1 March 2017 I recaptured on 8 April 2017. The DPI have issued me with a recapture certificate.

Brian Stacy

NSW DPI  
GAME FISH  
TAGGING  
PROGRAM

## Recapture Certificate

### BRONZE WHALER

Release		Recapture	
BRIAN STACY LAND BASED		BRIAN STACY LAND BASED	
Date	: 01 March 2017	Date	: 08 April 2017
Location	: SURFSIDE BEACH	Location	: SURFSIDE BEACH
Latitude	: 35.42S	Latitude	: 35.42S
Longitude	: 150.11E	Longitude	: 150.11E
Weight (kg)	: 5.78	Weight (kg)	: 5.78
Length (cm)	: 85	Length (cm)	: 85
Tag Number		: S253490	
Days at Liberty		: 38	
Distance (NM)		: 0	
Direction		: NW	

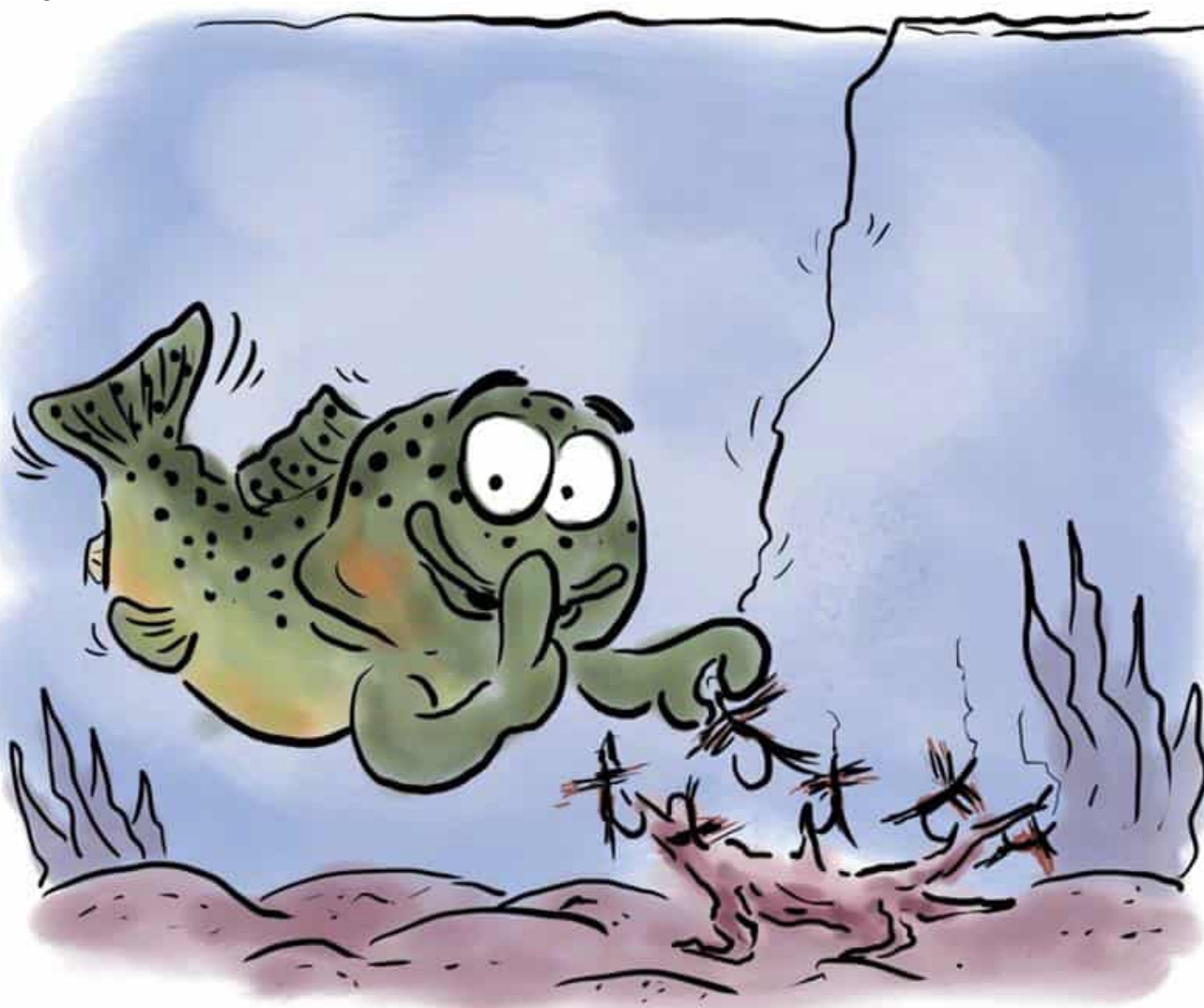
Phil Bolton  
FISHERIES MANAGER - TAGGING

Department of  
Primary Industries



# The Gumbush Trout from old Regret

by Jon Vogel



It had just gone 11 am and I was fly-fishing the windward bank (or the lee shore from a sailor's perspective), roll-casting and walking slowly in what to me were near perfect conditions. However, according to my fishing companion, Rob, it should have been colder, windier, much more over-cast – and even better if it were raining!

And Rob may have been right too since I caught none and sighted few that fateful day, and he caught one pan-sized rainbow and sighted only a few more. However, Rob did miss a rather nice Brown ... or, more correctly, the Brown missed Rob as it launched unseen from the depths as the leader was almost entirely lifted from the water in preparation for the next roll cast – and completely failed to connect with the fly.

Not to be out-done but rather un-done, I dropped what surely was the catch of a life-time and certainly in excess of the magic 10 lb mark given how things subsequently revealed themselves in thirty seconds on confusion, followed by a lifetime of disappointment. And this is how it happened as best I can recall ...

With no indication or forewarning, the unweighted fly (a black articulated woolly bugger) tied to a slow-sink leader retrieved in a lazy figure-eight, came to a slow dead stop such that I thought the hook had found an invisible mid-water snag. On lifting the rod gently, the snag was confirmed as the Sage #7 bent almost double under the load of a large sunken branch. At this point I continued to gently lift and apply a little more pressure, but soon realised this wasn't helping (and nor would a broken rod!). So I let everything go slack and started



twitched and jiggled the rod tip & fly-line in the hope of freeing the fly without having to haul the branch ashore, or worse, risk snapping the 6lb tippet and so lose the fly. And since I was only wearing thigh boots, wading in to affect a recovery was not really a viable option either, and certainly not just for a fly stuck on a stick.

Anyway, when gentle persuasion failed to get the desired result I applied more pressure, but this time hauling more directly in a straight line so as to spare the rod, and was pleased when I finally started to make a metre or two of progress against what was clearly a deeply submerged free-floating slimy old gum bush which had probably blown into the lake during the last summer storm.

Then, without so much as a head-shake, lunge, or other piscatorial sign of any kind, an explosion approximating that of a moderate under-water seismic event erupted perhaps a metre below the surface, followed by a bulge and loud splash. And then the fly-line went slack and the leader started sinking unhindered to the depths, along with my now racing heart.

I never did get to see that fish of a life time but I did get my fly back, which then proved totally useless for the rest of the day until it was finally lost to a thistle on clumsy back cast.

And no, I'm pretty sure it wasn't an eel or an overgrown water rat. However, it might well have been a playful water spirit of the kind known to taunt fishos who dare invade their tranquility, and then haunt their memories and dreams with visions of what might have been.

***Tall tales but true from the Xtreme Armchair Angler***



# The St Georges Basin Outing: 22-23 April 2017

by Kevin Spriggs



The April 2017 Outing was held at St Georges Basin with the club staying at Sanctuary Point. The outing was a bit down on previous numbers, Brian, Mick John and Kevin staying and Anthony day tripping, but those that attended had a good time.

Everybody caught up on Friday night and after some discussion with the local club and shops within walking distance, we wound up at the Holy Cow Indian Restaurant. We went with the chef's recommendation and had Goat Curry, which for all of us was a first. Saturday morning up bright and early with the four of us in Brian Stacy's Wildlife Adventures out to Jervis Bay. With a full tank of livies, we headed out to Middle Head to chase kings.

It was a bit of a carpark but nobody seemed to be catching anything. We then headed out to Point Perpendicular with no change to the score. Mick Jewry started up his fishing lessons for John Martin as he hadn't done any boat fishing before and needed a review of his gear.

Noticing a few boats near one of the points, we headed over there and started cubing up Snapper.

Then back to the house for lunch and a change of gear and with all four back on Brian's boat, we launched from Sanctuary Point Boat Ramp and onto St Georges Basin. It was a bit quite but we were able to get a couple of Flathead between us with John Martin getting his PB flattie, measuring 67cm.

Sunday morning it was back to launching from Sanctuary Point Boat Ramp and onto St Georges Basin. There were more boats about, most seemed to be anchored up and using bait. We did a drift through them and were able to get a few Flathead.

Back at midday to pack up and wash down the boat and head home.

# The Tathra / Bega River Outing: 20-21 May 2017

by Chris Lemmon

The May outing was to Tathra South Coast for the weekend. Tathra Beach Big4 Caravan Park was our location and six of us stayed in a cabin there (me, Bails, John B, Kevin, Mick and Lindsay) and three stayed in Kalaru up the road (Keith, Tom and Jon V).



Friday was foggy on the way down the Brown Mountain and rain was on the way. A quick check of the river at Kalaru showed it looking low and muddy coloured. It rained all Friday night and everyone slept in until 7.00 am. Bails had eaten two bananas in a row and looking like he had jinxed the weekend!

We found out later that the river was low because the sandbar at the entrance to the Bega River was dug open the Sunday before to prevent a flood because they knew the rain was coming.

A quick brekkie and Mick had made the gourmet sandwiches for him and John but Bails was complaining he only got Ham and Cheese! Someone had forgotten their wallet and fishing licence, (nameless for rat reasons), and, after a trip down the wrong track, we were finally at the river.

The water was a bit chilly but looked better than on Friday. A double hook-up in the launching bay saw a decent flattie for Bails and a pulled hook for me – blame setting up the net (no – that cannot be a nomination for the net award!)

Trolling for flatties was good and about a dozen up to 69 cm and several Bream made it to the boat. Olive, Brown Muddler and Brown Trout 6 cm Rapalas did the trick (XR06 Slashbait model).





Mick and John had been getting a few with flatties, Bream, Bull Mullet and a cracker Estuary Perch as well in the river on Saturday. Keith, Tom and Jon were lure casting and trolling and had some good fish as well. The capture book shows a successful Saturday with a page of captures.

Lindsay was land-based getting Tailor and Yellowtail at the wharf and Salmon off Tathra Beach on pilchards while everyone else was on the lagoon in boats.

Sunday dawned nice and clear and everyone was up early. We got a shock reaching the river to find that the water level had gone up nearly 30 cm so it was good timing by those who opened up the river mouth the previous Sunday.

We spent half the morning chasing flatties and then the rest chasing the big mullet along the rocky edge near the small docks in the lagoon. Very frustrating as our plastics were getting 'pantse'd' but not hooking up. Bails finally hooked up to a screaming run and a surprise 45cm and 0.93 kg Bull Mullet. Masters length is 40 cm so a good fish and I still want one. They go very hard for a small fish.



Next cast for Bails was 61 cm flattie and I was ready to give up after that the arsey bugger! Two casts later he got his Karma with an angry 110 cm long finned eel that took his plastic! After much ordering from Bails, I managed to get into the net.

A tip for anyone – do not bring these things on board! Next thing we knew it was loose in the boat and we were dancing at either end with no one game to grab it. Bails jumped in and grabbed it and tried to hold it up for the camera but it was really strong and slimy so shots were difficult. It looked to be about 4 kg and went 110 cm on the brag mat. A good way to finish the trip.

Accommodation was a bit cramped with lots of snorers and too much gear, but we managed.

I have to give Keith, Tom, Jon and Tom's mate a big wrap for cooking dinner Saturday night and providing a top feed. Also to Jon for bringing his bottle of scotch for us to sample – very nice.





Bails rounds off the Tathra Outing with a most impressive Eel!



## Total Length Award species for 2016-17 and 2017-18

The Total Length Awards bring on healthy competition from the ranks of the CFC and for 2016-17, the target species are Bream for the Saltwater section and Yellow Belly for the Freshwater. There's still plenty of time to get involved and put some points on the board to have a shot at these highly contested trophies. Minimum legal lengths apply for fish to be considered eligible for entry.

In 2017-18, the target species are Australian Salmon for the Saltwater section and all Salmonoid species (which includes Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, Atlantic Salmon and Chinook Salmon). The new target species applies from 1 July 2017.

### The target species for the 2016-17 fishing year are:

Saltwater section: Bream\*



Freshwater section: Golden Perch



\*Includes all Tarwhine and all species of Bream caught in Australian Territorial Waters. Note, this does not include freshwater species such as Bony Bream.

### The target species for the 2017-18 fishing year are:

Saltwater section: Australian Salmon



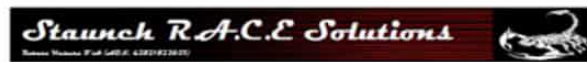
Freshwater section: All Salmonoid species



## How many metres can you catch?

# Thank you to the sponsors of the 2017 Canberra Carp Out!

We thank you for support and for being such a big part of this year's event!



## From the Editor

Thank you to Brian, Kevin, Jon and Lemmo for submitting articles for this month's newsletter. Also, thank you to John Martin, John Bosch and Steve Bailey for submitting photos to go with those articles.

It was a fantastic effort by our members and I encourage more members to have a go at writing an article on your most recent adventures (or misadventures as the case may be for Jon).



It helps to have photos with your article...Jon didn't submit any for his which presented a challenge. After all, how do you get a photo of the one that got away? However, Jon and I were able to come up with some creative solutions for his photo-less article.

While I was very tempted to take a few cheap shots at our Arm Chair Angler in my editorial, we must remember that we have all encountered that mythical fish 'the one that got away' more than once in our lives. The 'the one that got away' is like an encounter with the Loch Ness Monster – it's big, it's magnificent, it's memorable, it's seen by no-one but yourself, you have no proof of its existence, and you risk great ridicule if you are brave enough to share your story with the rest of the world. But like those Loch Ness Monster sightings you read in the tabloids and pseudo-scientific journals, they also make great stories. So let us commend Jon for his bravery in sharing his story because it was a most enjoyable read.

While Jon was letting fish get away, Brian has been re-catching his and he has a certificate from the DPI for his re-capturing efforts. I've never caught a Bronze Whaler before let alone tag and release one near bathers. Although I did hook a 3 metre Bronze Whaler on a handline one when I was 11 off my Grandfather's boat at Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island. This monster swam up with my line as I was handlining it and scared the living daylights out of me when it revealed itself next to the boat before diving back into the murky depths and effortlessly busting off my 12 lb fishing line.

I should also mention that Lemmo has offered some good advice in his Tathra Outing article. While I have nothing against eels per se, I discovered on Bulcock Beach, Caloundra, on January 2004 that they are slippery customers with clamp like jaws full of fine needle-like teeth. On that occasion, an elderly lady had caught a Moray Eel and didn't know what to do with it. It had been rolling around in the sand so it was very easy to pick up and I threw it into the water. Things didn't go as I expected. The eel immediately swam back to shore and rolled around on the beach again.

At this point, I thought the poor creature is disoriented, like the beached whales you see on the news. So I grabbed the eel again, only to discover it was now slippery having been in the water. The eel squirmed out of my grip and then clamped its mouth onto my hand. All I could do was hold my hand over the water and wait for the eel to let go, which it did....eventually. Then it was straight to the Caloundra Base Hospital for me. Thirteen years later and I am still left with some minor scars on my right hand.

A big thank you also to everyone who submitted photos to the Photo Comp. Please start sending me your entries for the June photo comp competition for a chance to win a \$20 Tackle World voucher if you are the monthly winner.



The rules if 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

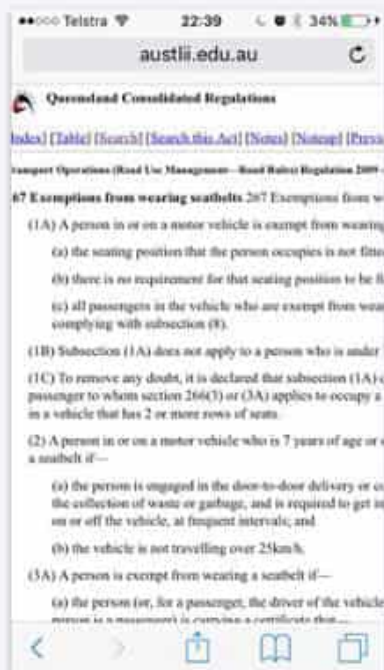
The winner for the April photo comp is Yours Truly with my oh so small Brown Trout caught on fly. I am sad to say it is the only Trout I have caught this year and, like Jon Vogel, I'm building up a healthy collection of the 'one that got away' stories on a weekly basis. For the newer members, I don't get to pick the photo comp winner so I didn't choose my photo out of a lack of modesty. Matt Perdrau from Otto's Tackle World Canberra picks the winning photos each month. His reason for choosing mine was 'Great idea taking the photo that way as it really made it appealing even though it was a small fish.' For those who were at the May General Meeting, you might also understand his next comment: 'Getting bogged didn't look like fun!!!'. It was not fun but fortunately, someone was able to winch me out of the mud.



Talking about car mishaps while fishing, some of you might have noticed the story I shared on our FB page about an unlucky driver in Queensland booked for not wearing his seatbelt while parking his car at the boat ramp. You may have noticed on that post and other FB pages that shared this that we have no shortage of bush lawyers offering their counsel on how the driver can challenge the fine like the example below:



I'm not a lawyer but I think if I'm reading this right 2B so long as he is over 7 years old and the car is doing less than 25 he is ok not to wear a seatbelt



Like · Reply · 11 · May 25 at 10:43pm

These clever bush lawyers have looked up paragraph 267 (2) of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Road Rules) Regulation 2009* (Qld) and found an exemption to the seatbelt rule:

- (2) A person in or on a motor vehicle who is 7 years of age or older is exempt from wearing a seatbelt if—
  - (a) the person is engaged in the door-to-door delivery or collection of goods, or in the collection of waste or garbage, and is required to get in or out of the vehicle, at frequent intervals; and
  - (b) the vehicle is not travelling over 25km/h.

There is an identical provision in paragraph 267 (2) of the *Road Rules 2014* (NSW).

I'll leave others to comment on the fairness or appropriateness of slapping an infringement notice on someone for failing to wear their seatbelt while parking their car at a boat ramp. But if you are unfortunate enough to get fined for failing to wear your seatbelt at the boat ramp, don't be like those muppets on Facebook and plead that you were doing less than 25 km/h. What our bush lawyers on Facebook fail to realise is that sub paragraph (b) must be read together with sub paragraph (a). This means you can only claim the exemption if you are over the age of 7, a delivery driver and or garbage collector, you are required to get in and out of your vehicle frequently, and your car is not travelling more than 25 km/h.



No doubt, there may be grounds for amending the road rules to allow an exemption on wearing seatbelts at boat ramps. However, even if a case is made, it is difficult to say with certainty what the chances of amending the seatbelt rules are as this is covered by the Uniform Road Rules adopted by the East Coast States. All the East Coast States would probably have to agree to the change in law. Getting uniform legislation between States is a pretty big ask as they can't agree on the colour of an orange at the best of times.

Finally, if you have some gear to sell, swap, wanted or barter then send through the details to [info@canberrafishos.com](mailto:info@canberrafishos.com). Also, a reminder for the lucky member number draw at each general meeting, you must be there to win the cash or it JACKPOTS each week until a winning member is present.

Anthony Heiser



## April 2017 Photo Competition



Brian Stacy: nice size Dolphin Fish at Batemans Bay



Brian Stacy: nice size Dolphin Fish



Anthony Heiser: Pre-fishing the Carp-Out



John Martin: Launching the boat at SGB



John Martin: Cleaning the catch at Jervis Bay

**Winner of the April Photo Comp:**



Anthony Heiser: A very little Brown on Fly

As always, a huge thank you goes out to our major sponsor, Otto's Tackle World Canberra.

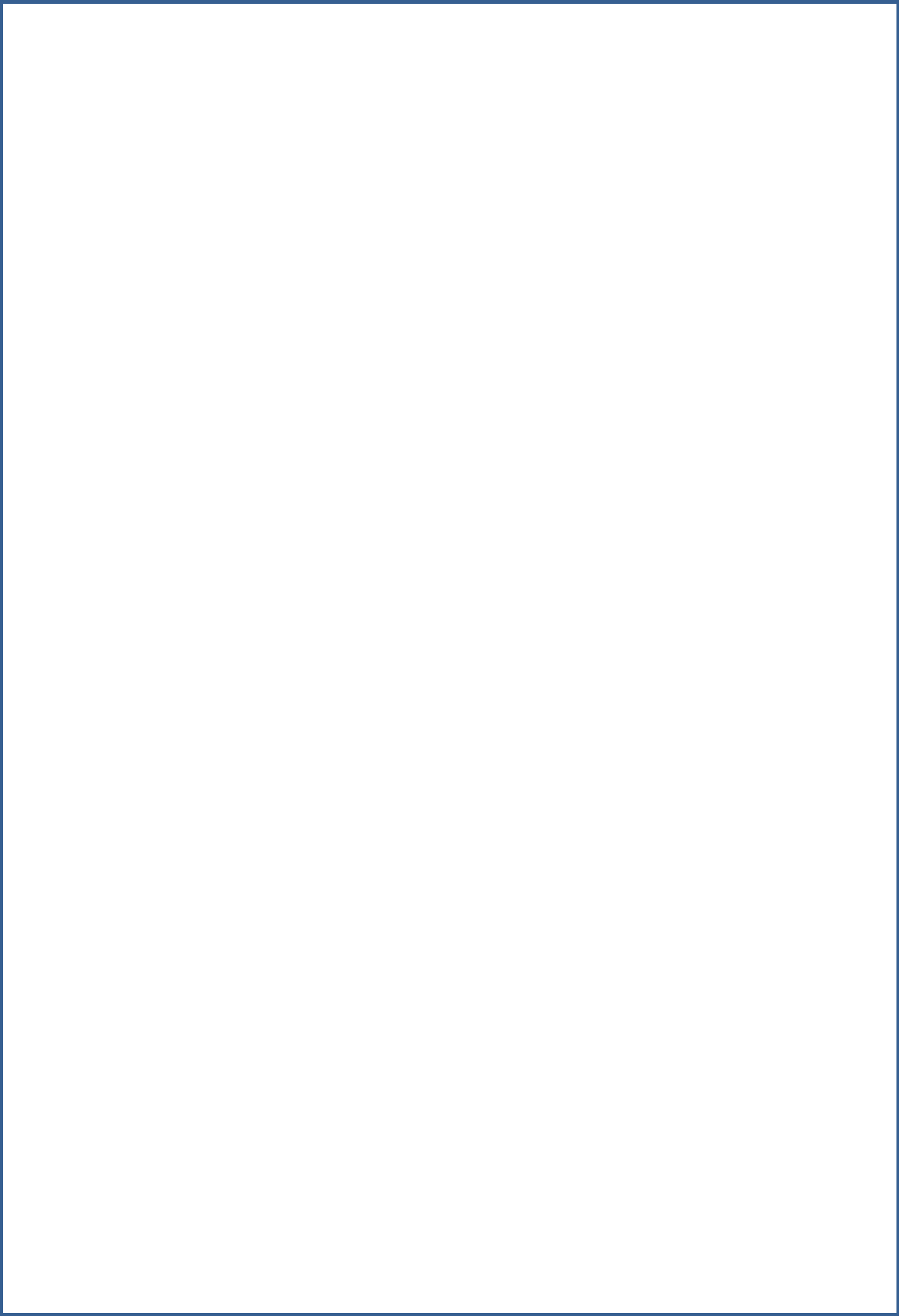


Thank you to everyone at OTWC for supporting this photo competition. More than that, thank you OTWC for the ongoing support extended to the Canberra Fisherman's Club throughout the fishing year. Not to mention, thank you for continually stocking such a great range of gear and always being happy to extend some of the best fishing advice available in Canberra.



## 2016-2017 & 2017-2018 Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

Outing Date	Outing	Monthly Meetings
<b>10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Narooma	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Ulladulla	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Buckenderra	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Kalkite	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sept-1 Oct</b>	Tomakin: South Coast Mighty Bonanza Fishing Comp – ANSA Tomakin Convention	
<b>15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Gone Fishing Day	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	ANSA Burrinjuck Convention	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	Burrinjuck: CFC – Morven-Culcairn Inter Club Challenge	
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	CFC Christmas Party	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Carpathon	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Tuross	
<b>17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	ANSA Nowra Convention	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	ANSA Narooma Convention	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> April</b>	St Georges Basin	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Kalkite	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Narooma	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Wairo/Ulladulla	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>



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# CFC Office Bearers 2016 – 2017

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<b>SAFETY OFFICER</b>	<b>Chris Lemmon</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	<b>Steve Bailey</b>	

## Membership & Contact Information

### Membership Fees

	<b>CFC</b>	<b>ANSA</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>\$4</b>
<b>Student</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$7</b>
<b>Senior</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$25</b>

### **All Correspondence to**

**CFC Secretary**  
**PO Box 325**  
**Civic Square, ACT 2608**

Articles for inclusion in the  
CFC Newsletter to be  
Forwarded to the Editor

[editor@canberrafishos.com](mailto:editor@canberrafishos.com)

### CFC Life Members

**Mike Penkethman**

**Alan Matthews**

**Brian Ray**

**Laurie Nolen**

**Jamie Stanfield**

**Chris De La Rue**