

FISH 'N' TIPS

April 2022



Stunning Somerset



**PRESIDENT'S
REPORT
April 2022**

Hello to all once again,

Before I start to ramble on about club business, I would like to mention that COVID has started to make inroads to our members and I urge you to use common sense and government guidelines when coming to a meeting, barbecue or social event, where you will be mixing with other members.

As for club activities we have just had our two-day competition up at Somerset dam and although a great success socially, unfortunately, with the severe weather conditions over the past couple of months, the fishing was non-existent, except for the freshwater jew (catfish) which were in abundance due to the condition of the water.

I would love to know where all of the bass and yellow belly go to during these times, as we covered all areas of the dam during our four days up there. I am sure our publicity guru will have a covering story on this as well as the Caboolture markets two-day social gathering, which we have also just concluded with goods and chattels accumulated over the past couple of years.

Thank you to all who helped out over this time, but more so to Lynn and Bruce Carey for their storage shed and great lunch, which they donated to the members. Wishing them all the best in purchasing a property closer to Bribie Island, thus enabling them to have an easier social contact with us.

The RSL raffle roster will again be available to you at our Monday night meeting as well as the attendance list for the April barbecue.

Our next social away trip is Maroochydore, where we hope to have better fishing than of late around Bribie. There are plenty of crabs out the front of the passage, but you will work a bit harder to find the Whiting.

That's about all from my desk, but again I mention how much the members and I appreciate the work done by the catering crew, whether it be at home or away. This is an integral part of our social wellbeing so thank you to all.

Keith Kable

President

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Bribie
Island RSL Club

The Bribie RSL Fishing Club provides a real service to the community by extending the hand of friendship not only to fishermen and women with a common interest, but also to the many residents of Bribie Island and the surrounding area who would otherwise lead a lonely existence. Currently our club has approximately eighty members of whom only twenty to thirty are regular fisher people.

Without the ability to raise the necessary funds, our club would not be able to exist, so through the generosity of the Bribie RSL Club, members of our club are able to raise the finances required by conducting meat tray raffles on a Thursday night from June until January of each year. In addition, the Bribie Island RSL Club supports us in very substantial and significant ways – use of facilities at the Sports Club for our monthly presentation BBQ's, use of the ANZAC room for our monthly general meetings and very importantly, a \$25 voucher each month for our member's draw. Many thanks Bribie Island RSL Club – we really do appreciate your support.

Monthly Comp - March 2022

Total No of Fish 49 Inshore

Ladies Inshore

Place	Name	Points	No of Fish
Winner	Patterson Tina	89	10
R/up	Rogers Heatherbell	10	1

Mens Inshore

Place	Name	Points	No of Fish
Winner	Winnett Ron	64	9
R/up	Casey John	58	9
3rd	Patterson Richard	49	9
4 th	Maatouk Tony	48	8
5 th	Phillips Michael	11	3

Total No of Fish 7 Offshore

Mens Offshore

Place	Name	Points	No of Fish
Winner	Chauhan Amrat	41.1	4
R/up	McGruddy Peter	29.15	3

Lucky Draw

Name
Maatouk Tony



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Stunning Somerset

I often ask myself why I love the Somerset Fishing Competition as much as I do, because I know it is not the fish. I am sure you can all imagine how the recent floods would have affected the water quality at Somerset Dam, but the effect was a lot worse than we originally thought.

As the flood waters raged down the rivers, into the dam, topsoil was not the only thing that was washed down. The obvious things were trees and branches, lots of litter and waste products, but it also included many dead animals that were caught in the torrent. There were hundreds of native animals but there were also many domestic animals like cows and horses. As a result, Somerset dam was closed to all water activities. Many of the locals were cut off from the local townships and people were stranded on the side of the road for days, so we didn't quite know what to expect when we arrived at the dam.

As we drove into the Kirkleigh Parkland, we were amazed by how high the water had reached. A massive amount of dead trees, branches, sticks and leaves had been left high up in the park as the water subsided. The local backhoe was busy clearing all of the debris away from the boat ramp, so it looked like we would be able to use at least on of the three lanes.



It didn't take long before the cabin was made available. So we moved in and took advantage of the air-conditioned comfort. It was slightly better than the Glamping tents from last year. After lunch, I walked out onto our veranda to enjoy the view. Now I know why I love this place so much.

The water wasn't the beautiful blue that we have come to expect, but even with a slight brown tinge, the view was still spectacular. We launched the boat without any difficulty and set our traps in the hope that they would fill up with shrimp during the night.

Later that evening we walked the fifty meters to the rest of our bunch and made plans for an early rise the next morning.

It was just before 5:00am when the alarm went off, but the excitement of the day had woken us well before that. You have to be up early to beat Keith and Trevor. They disappeared onto the lake as we pulled up to the ramp.



It didn't take long to pick up our traps, but when we pulled them out of the water, we realised that big eels had raided them. It must have been an easy meal for them. We had previously dug up a few worms so we would have to be happy to soak a few of them in the hope of catching a couple of fresh water catfish. No sooner had we dropped the worms overboard when the catfish started to come onboard. The trouble was that they were only about 25cms long. It was a bit of fun but 10 O'clock had come and the sun was becoming unbearable.



There must have been about twenty two members at this years competition although not everyone fished. While some of us did all the hard yards, others were enjoying a cup of tea or coffee and a sticky bun for morning tea. I can't say as I blame them because the outlook from the cabins is something pretty special.

After a great day on the water, it is always nice to watch the boats coming back in, whilst sipping on a cold ale or two.



If you thought that the view was only great during the day, you would have been in for a treat as the evening draws to a close. This is the time for all the wildlife to come out of hiding to enjoy the lush green grass that had grown after all the rain.

The rabbit population has grown considerably over the years and it is not uncommon to see them at various places around the dam and local roads. There was a time when the rabbit population was restricted to all areas below Stanthorpe, but the outbreak around the dam has certainly flourished and it is unlikely that these little fellas will ever disappear. They are really cute to look at, very tasty to eat, but extremely destructive to the local farmer.





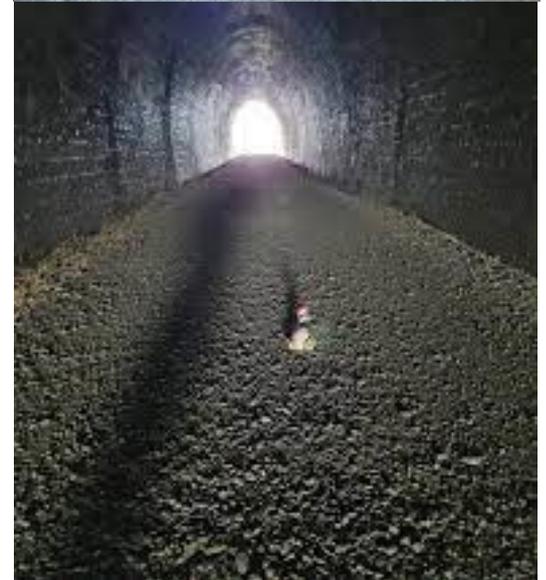
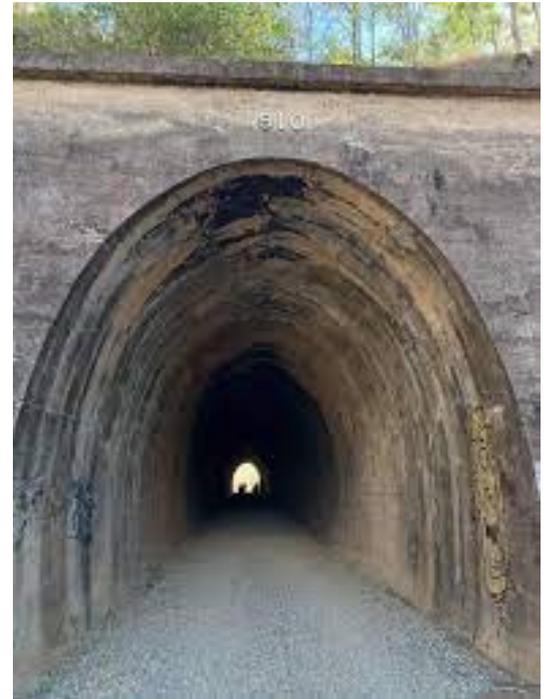
Day two was a repeat of day one, except that after retrieving the ravaged shrimp pots, Keith and Trevor were kind enough to offer us quite a few shrimp. It was a beautiful and very sporting gesture but all the normal fish were not hungry; in fact I am pretty sure that nobody had caught a Bass, Yellowbelly or Silver perch during the competition, however Allan Woodward did manage his very first Saratoga, which he caught on a shrimp. A bit small but a Saratoga all the same.



Well after a few hours of very quiet fishing, we decide to put the boat away and explore some of the surrounding area, namely the Yimbun Tunnel. The Yimbun tunnel was constructed in 1910 along the Brisbane Valley branch rail line, Queensland's second branch line. This branch line was fundamental in the development of settlements throughout the Brisbane Valley.

The tunnel was designed by engineer Hugh Fraser and was constructed by day labourers between February 1909 and May 1910. It was the only tunnel built on this railway line and is noteworthy due to its concrete lined construction. The Yimbun Tunnel is one of only three major structures that remain along the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail as a reminder of times gone by.

After about two hours of driving up and down McGregor's Road, we found a gate that seemed to lead us to the tunnel, but it also looked like private property. We asked one of the local farmers who told us that he had lived there all his life and had never seen it and he knew of no way to get in to it, so we bought a couple of 10kg pumpkins and drove back just in time for the weigh-in. Since that time we have found a way in, so the next time we visit the dam, we will be walking through the Yimbun Tunnel.



The final hour of the final day of competition and everyone had arrived at the weigh-in station. We can't say that there was much excitement because it was a foregone conclusion that anyone who was lucky enough to be onboard the Luxury Liner (Periwinkle), was going to catch a catfish. Allan Woodward had managed to find the fish and had decided to share the moment with the girls. The gathering was a lot of fun as it always is when members of our club get together. Fun, laughter and excessively noisy.

While all this was going on Margaret Phillips had been shopping in Kilcoy. On her return Margaret had organised all the salads, steaks, plates etc etc. in readiness for the BBQ at the camp kitchen.

Drinks and Nibbles were interrupted as we all paraded onto the lawn for a quick group hug and photo.



Thank you to all those who helped with the catering, cooking cleaning up and for just being there to share in another great weekend away at Stunning Somerset.



DAY 1	Location	Somerset Dam		Logged: J Davis V2.1 25/03/2022
Day Date	Wednesday	23/03/2022		R Winnett (Weighmaster)
	NAME	FISH	Fish (Kg)	Notes
1	Tammy O	Catfish	0.585	
2	Vivian K	Catfish	1.180	
3	Steve K	Catfish	0.560	
4	Hillary W	Catfish	1.050	
5	Allan W	Catfish	1.390	
6	Allan W	Catfish	1.240	
7	John W	Catfish	1.035	
8	John W	Catfish	0.770	
9	Tony J	Catfish	1.160	
10	Tony J	Catfish	0.870	
DAY 1		Numbers	Total Kg	
		0 x Yellow Belly		
		0 x Bass		
		10 x Catfish	9.840	
DAY 1	Best of Day	Heaviest Fish	FISH (Kg)	
1st	Allan W	Catfish	1.390	
2nd	Allan W	Catfish	1.240	
3rd	Vivian K	Catfish	1.180	
DAY 2	Location	Somerset Dam		Logged: J Davis V2.1 25/03/2022
Day Date	Thursday	24/03/2022		R Winnett (Weighmaster)
	NAME	FISH	Fish (Kg)	Notes
1	John D	Catfish	1.035	
2	Vivian K	Catfish	0.490	
3	Vivian K	Catfish	0.530	
4	Tony J	Catfish	0.755	
5	Tony J	Catfish	1.210	
6	Trevor B	Catfish	0.730	
7	Keith K	Catfish	1.260	
DAY 2		Numbers	Total Kg	
		0 x Yellow Belly		
		0 x Bass		
		7 x Catfish	6.010	
DAY 2	Best of Day	Heaviest Fish	FISH (Kg)	
1st	Keith K	Catfish	1.260	
2nd	Tony J	Catfish	1.210	
3rd	John D	Catfish	1.035	

TOTAL	WINNERS	Heaviest Fish	FISH (Kg)	Notes
1st	Allan W	Catfish	1.390	
2nd	Keith K	Catfish	1.260	
3rd	Allan W	Catfish	1.240	
TOTAL		Heaviest Bag	BAG (Kg)	Bag = max of 2 per species
1st	Tony J	----->	3.995	
2nd	Allan W	----->	2.630	
3rd	Vivian K	----->	2.200	
		Lucky Draw		
	John D			
15 Fishermen caught 17 fish presented to weigh-in. TO,FO/AW,HW,SK,VK/JW,BW/MP,TJ/RW,JC,JD/TB,KK				



What's On This Month



APRIL

Monday 11th April

Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm

25th Mar – 22nd April

Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps

Friday 22th 6pm

Weigh in

Sunday 24th April

BBQ:- 3:00pm TOC-H

BBQ—TOC-H

We are privileged to have the following members catering for next BBQ on
Sunday 24th April at the TOC-H

Mike and Margaret Phillips and John and Barbara Wicks

Tina Strikes Gold in Pumicestone Passage





The first time that the club had a “Trash and Treasure” sale must have been about five years ago. More and more people joined the club and membership had reached almost eighty. This also meant that the cost of subsidies had increased, so the club decided to hold a trash and treasure fund raiser to cater for the increased numbers.

The club had organised two very successful events and everything was in place for another one until Covid prevented us from organising the third. Not only were we unable to hold a third trash and treasure, but our members had already donated an amazing amount of equipment for the event and there was nowhere to store it all.

This is where good old Bruce and Lyn Carey stepped in to help us out. Much of the donated goods were far too good to take to the dump so Bruce and Lyn offered to keep it all in their garage /shed. Three years later, all the donations had all but taken over the shed and although the Careys hadn't planned to keep it there indefinitely, it was becoming a bit of a hinderance, especially now that Bruce and Lyn had decide to sell their home.

In the five years since the initial Trash and Treasure, our membership has increased even more and although our financial status is a lot more stable, we really needed to empty out Bruce and Lynette's shed, so someone suggested that we set up a stall in the Caboolture markets. Well that time had now come, but little did we know how much work would be involved.

It was early Saturday morning when a group of volunteers arrived at the Carey's to start the ball rolling. Everything needed to be unpacked, sorted into the various categories; kitchenware, glassware, tools, fishing gear, books, novels etc etc. Then it was time to price each item, so a system of coloured stickers was used as an indicator. Green was \$1, yellow was \$2 red \$5 etc.



Morning tea came and went and it wasn't long before the smell of freshly cooked sausages filled the air. Lynette had also prepared her famous Special Fried Rice and salad as part of a delicious banquet. No that wasn't the end of the day because now all of the gear had to be packed in boxes and then into numerous trailers, cars and trucks. Finally it was all done ...or was it.

The alarms went off at 3:00am on Sunday morning as about ten early risers jumped into their cars and headed off to the Caboolture markets. It was still pitch black when our dumb group of volunteers arrived at the markets to erect the gazebos, unload everything and place all the items in their respective areas. Luckily no one was injured in the darkness.

You would have to think that it was now time to take a well earned break but no; you could now see little glimmers of light as a few people started rummaging through the boxes using their phones and a light source in order to get the early deal. The sun hadn't even thought about coming up yet.

Aaahh!! The sun was on the horizon and we could now see what our site looked like; better still we could get a cappuccino and a bacon and egg sandwich.



Finally, the time had come to put our selling skills to the test. Amazingly, the interaction with the customers was quite enjoyable. Trish Hinkley was the star of the show. She was just a bit better looking than the blokes and positioned herself near all the valuable and attractive items. Heatherbell didn't stop organising and moving things around, but that seemed to be a very successful move. Richard Patterson positioned himself behind the book store and made quite a killing, especially with the fishing books. Rob, Tim, Ray and Keith had brought along a couple of camp chairs which they used for a well earned rest. Julie tried in vein to sell the countless glasses, beer steins and vases and made a bit of an impact, but they really are a hard sell. Bruce just chatted away to all his friends.

It must have been around 7:00am when Michael, Margaret and Amrat turned up and that was also the time when a lot of the fishing gear was sold. Talk about a hard sell. I am glad Michael doesn't sell insurance, because you wouldn't be able to get his foot out of the door.

The sun was now well and truly up as you felt the small beads of perspiration started dripping down your spine and that was also about the time when I left it all up to the new shift who arrived at 9:00am.

Speaking to our illustrious leader after the event, Keith informed me that almost everything had either been sold or given away.

A great job and successful fund raiser thanks to the numerous volunteers.

A special thank you to Bruce and Lynette Carey for storing all the gear and welcoming us into their home for morning tea and a fantastic lunch. Also to Saskia for taking the time and effort to cook some Bacon, egg and Cheese toasties as well as some lovely little cakes.



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Owners of Browns Mitre 10 on Bribie Island, Michael and Samantha Brown have very kindly agreed to support us by donating a \$20 gift card each month to be used as a raffle prize at our monthly general meeting. In addition, they have offered a 5% discount on all fishing, marine and bait goods when members show their Bribie Is-

If members provide a Wilsons product number for the item they wish to purchase and it is not in store, Michael will order it for you. This is a great service. In addition, Michael has offered to provide better pricing for group buys or for certain high turnover items. Thank you, Browns Mitre 10 Bribie Island.

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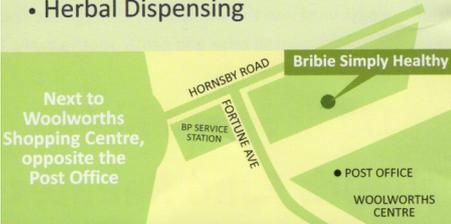
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TREASURER:	Heatherbell Rogers	0432 664 773
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Please pop down and say hello or contact me to arrange a scheduled time.

This schedule is valid until the end of May 2021.

See you there

📞 07 3474 2100

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✉️ pumicestone@parliament.qld.gov.au

📱 @aliforpumicestone

