

FISH 'N' TIPS



Important Reminders

November Members Meeting

14th December 7:00pm

Weigh In
Saturday, 26th December 6pm

Fishing Club Web Site:
www.bribierslfishingclub.com

DECEMBER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2015

PRESIDENT:	Michael Phillips	0417 418 623
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Bryan Stenning	0421 446 295
SECRETARY:	Peter McGruddy	0428 107 486
TREASURER:	Carole Winnett	07 3410 0135
TREASURER'S ASSISTANT	Lyn Hunter	07 5497 7116
WEIGHMASTER:	Ron Winnett	0418 881 419
WEIGHMASTER'S ASSISTANT:	Richard Patterson	0400 994 878
CATERING CO-ORDINATOR:	Margaret Phillips	0425 648 623
CATERING ASSISTANT:	Margaret Steptoe	0412 746 441
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Frank Oostenbroek	0401 694 111
MERCHANDISERS:	Joe & Wendy Knight	07 3410 8573
WEBMASTER:	Frank Oostenbroek	0401 694 111

Correspondence to:

**The Secretary
Bribie Island R.S.L. Fishing Club
PO Box 297 Bribie Island QLD 4507**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The AGM on the 11th January 2016

President's Report

Christmas is once again on us and by the time you read this report we will have had our presentation night for 2015.

It was nice to see Josie Scott back at the club on Thursday 3rd selling the raffle tickets at the raffles.

The night at the golf club was well supported but I don't think that we would do the same again as I have never been to a night where the presentations were spread out and took so long and the "entertainment" was very disappointing, when you could actually hear it. Nevertheless I think everyone had a pleasant evening.

I was able to go away at the start of the month with Frank up to Lake Monduran near Gin Gin to fish for Barramundi. We arrived on the Monday morning and fished the afternoon. We had no luck with the fish but I managed to catch far more trees and snags than Frank, who I don't think caught any.

We were up early on the Tuesday and on the water at 4.30 a.m. and fished till nearly 10 o'clock. Once again we caught no fish but I did get a lot less snags! It appears as though a few fish were being caught before we arrived but they shut down when we got on the water.

Unfortunately after lunch on Tuesday I became violently ill and Frank, being the gentleman he is, packed up the camping gear, because I could not do anything, and brought me home. I don't know if it was heat stroke or a bug that was going around. My heartfelt thanks to Frank for looking after me.

Next month is our AGM and if you would like to take a place on the committee please complete a nomination form. It is always good to have "new blood" on the committee and whilst I have enjoyed my 6 years as president I would like to step back next year and let someone else take the reins. I am always happy to help out someone new and would be happy to take the Vice-Presidents position.

The RSL club have kindly donated a voucher to the fishing club each month for 2016 and these will be used as the members draw prize each month

The raffles are being run on a volunteer basis for December and January, so if you haven't volunteered please have a look and see when people are still needed. December 17 is severely lacking! We do not have the raffles from February to the end of May.

Margaret and I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

A happy birthday to all those with birthdays in December.

Tight Lines,

Mike Phillips

Weighmaster's Report

The freshwater competition in Somerset was a huge successfor some.

Keith Kable and Trevor Bourke seem to have developed a special art for catching the bigger Bass and Yellowbelly but they may need a bit of extra coaching from Margaret Gadd after she caught a monstrous 3Kg Yellow Belly the day before the competition.

The results of the competition were as follows:

Winner:	Keith Kable	2 x Bass + 2 x Yellowbelly
Runner-up:	Trevor Bourke	2 x Bass + 1 x Yellowbelly

The results for the monthly competition are as follows:

Inshore:

<i>Men's Winner:</i>	<i>Trevor Plant</i>
<i>Men's Runner-up:</i>	<i>Richard Patterson</i>

<i>Ladies Winner:</i>	<i>Tina Patterson</i>
<i>Runner-up:</i>	<i>Carole Winnett</i>

Offshore:

<i>Men's Winner:</i>	<i>John Casey</i>
<i>Men's Runner-up</i>	<i>George Dragon</i>

There were 97 fish caught inshore and 9 fish offshore.



The Trophy Night was another fantastic success with our band leader Richard Caldararo ensuring that everyone had an equal opportunity to show their talent. It was great to see that everyone enjoyed themselves.

The timing of the evening went like clockwork which again highlights the quality of our committee. A three course dinner where the meals were hot and cooked to perfection proved more than enough for even the biggest appetites.

Party games and prizes galore just added to the evening's entertainment. Our musical masters, Lyn and Rob certainly won't be releasing any hits on the top forty charts in the near future but they provided some great dance and sing-a-long music that brought back a flood of memories.

It was great to see all the ladies leading the way on the dancefloor but it wasn't until the music slowed, that many of the boys actually selected a partner to cuddle up to. It was not necessarily the partner they were married to but we are a pretty close knit club.

The results of the Trophy Presentation are as follows:

<i>Ladies inshore Club Champion:</i>	Tina Patterson
<i>Ladies Most Points:</i>	Tina Patterson
<i>Ladies Inshore Club Champion Runner-up:</i>	Carole Winnett
<i>Ladies Most Points Runner-up:</i>	Carole Winnett
<i>Men's Inshore Club Champion:</i>	Ron Winnett
<i>Men's Most Points:</i>	Ron Winnett
<i>Men's Inshore Club Champion Runner-up:</i>	Trevor Plant
<i>Men's Most Points Runner-Up:</i>	Trevor Plant
<i>Ladies Offshore Club Champion:</i>	Sheila Oostenbroek
<i>Ladies Offshore Club Champion Runner-Up:</i>	Kathy Foote
<i>Men's Offshore Club Champion:</i>	Frank Oostenbroek
<i>Men's Offshore Club Champion Runner-Up:</i>	Richard Caldararo

Outstanding Biggest Fish Inshore:

<i>Bream</i>	<i>1.03kg</i>	Richard Patterson
<i>Flathead</i>	<i>1.95kg</i>	Richard Patterson
<i>Bream</i>	<i>1.01kg</i>	Tina Patterson
<i>Snapper</i>	<i>3.85kg</i>	Richard Caldararo

Outstanding Biggest Fish Offshore:

<i>Cobia</i>	<i>16.5kg</i>	Frank Oostenbroek
<i>Cobia</i>	<i>6.5kg</i>	Sheila Oostenbroek
<i>Mackerel</i>	<i>8.23kg</i>	Richard Caldararo
<i>Amberjack</i>	<i>4.35kg</i>	Michael Phillips

Freshwater:

<i>Jack Daley Memorial Shield:</i>	Bryan Stenning
<i>Jack Daley Memorial Shield Runner-Up:</i>	Trevor Bourke
<i>Otto Scott Memorial Shield (Most Points):</i>	Keith Kable

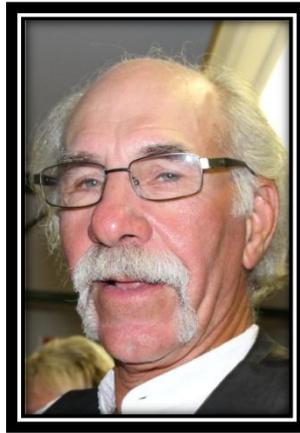
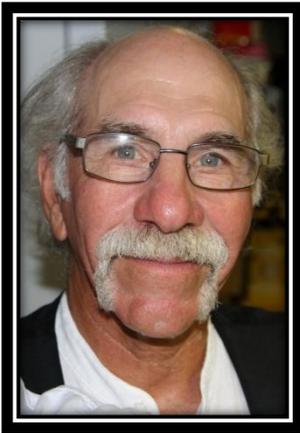
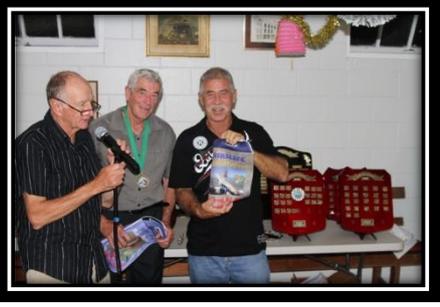
<i>Most Meritorious Catch: Snapper 3.85kg:</i>	Richard Caldararo
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I would like to congratulate George Dragon for the outstanding quality of our trophies. The amount of thought and professionalism that has gone into each and every prize will ensure that they will not become another dust collector, but will become a useful and prized possession to be admired for many years to come.

Well Done George

The Trophy Night Photos





Before and After



Congratulations to Julie for looking after Keith for 40 Years

Fishing News

Unknown sources have revealed that Chris Roberts has bought another boat. Reports have mentioned that this was a bargain too good to miss, and even the previous owner Elvin Lock stated that he was sorry to lose his true and faithful tinny. Elvin's Tinny had only ever been used on Sundays and had reportedly less than ten hours on his four stroke motor, however the full service history could not be found. Apparently the boat had been heavily discounted after everything had been stripped out of the boat.

A new Garmin GPS / Sounder has been installed after some extensive work was undertaken to produce a new mounting bracket. This device can obviously be used to detect the whereabouts of the massive fish that Chris intends to catch but the main reason that this latest piece of technology was installed was to enhance the safety of both his boat and the passengers by allowing the safe navigation under extreme conditions. Chris was keen to test his new acquisition to ensure that his craft was able to withstand the massive swells and raging current of the Pumicestone Passage. There were a couple of other members of the club who doubted the quality of Chris's purchase and who could be seen laughing at the old man of the sea, but suffice to say that not a drop of water had entered the boat. Congratulations Chris and may this boat bring you and Merle many hours of fishing pleasure.



CALDO SCORES AGAIN





I am amazed how Richard Caldararo manages to be in the right place at the right time. Since I have known Richard he has managed to catch Spanish Mackerel, Tuna, Snapper and now Dolphin Fish and all of them from my boat. Richard won the award for the Club Champion Runner-Up and suggested that he may win the top prize next year.

I must admit that I was really surprised to see Richard land that fish. We had started trolling on the western side of Flinders' Reef and had only just finished placing all the Grubbsta Lures into the correct positions, when one of the reels screamed into action. Earlier that morning I explained that Ron Winnett was the most experienced, so it was important that he should be the one to fight the first fish.

Well as soon as the reel sounded the alarm, Ron headed towards the rod, but when I looked around, I saw Richard snatch the rod out of Ron's hands and in the process he dropped one of my irreplaceable rod extenders into the ocean. It was obvious that Richard lacked the experience and found it very difficult to stand so he sat on the end of the esky and used it as a game chair.

I was obviously pretty upset as he placed his overweight body on my fragile item of equipment, but both Ron and I decided to sit back and just watch the action hoping that the fish would just fall off the hook. As luck would have it, the fish stayed on and lay motionless beside the boat until Richard yelled at me to gaff the fish.

I was furious, so I bashed the fish on the head in an effort to make the fish run. Well it worked. The fish didn't know what hit him and swam away at lightning speed. Unbelievably the hook still didn't work its way loose and it wasn't long before the fish was again alongside the boat.

I gently placed the gaff into the fish and lifted him into the esky and removed the hook. Well if that episode wasn't enough, he now starts to tell me to take a photo of his prize and then starts to complain because I was taking too long.

I thought that Richard had finally calmed down but to add insult to injury, he then unscrewed the handle off my reel and threw it into the ocean and that is the reason that Ron didn't catch any fish.

If you are thinking of taking Richard fishing in the future, pay a little thought to what I have just told you before you invite him onto your boat and think what he would be like to live with if he was to win "THE CLUB CHAMPION" next year.

From Strawberries to Fishing

It is no secret that Peter McGruddy loves his fishing and since joining the RSL Fishing Club, he has proven his ability to catch a wide variety of fish, but who is this man; where did he come from and why is he here. Well the answer to the first question is simple. Peter is the Secretary of our club who often provides us with beautiful raspberries. What more do we need to know? I find it amazing how we just look at our members on face value, without really knowing much about that person, so I thought I would let you in on a few secrets about Peter.

Peter McGruddy was actually born in England, but raised in Scotland until 1954 when he moved to Atherton in North Queensland. School was not one of Peter's favourite pastimes and he sometimes lacked the drive to reach the higher scores needed to succeed in life. His focus was more towards aeroplanes and he soon became a member of the Air Cadets and actually gained his pilot's licence before his driver's licence.

Soon after, he met a beautiful lady from Cairns, called Pamela, who would change his life forever. With a little bit of gentle persuasion, Peter set about to further his education whilst working as a Cadet Chemist in agriculture. With a growing passion for plants he joined the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations in Gordonvale.

Peter and Pam finally married but life was not all roses. With the added responsibility of married life and the likelihood of a family in the future, Peter realised that he really needed an education and continued his university studies, which meant that Pam had to continue as the only breadwinner in the family. To say that life was hard was an understatement, but eventually Peter graduated as a School Teacher majoring in maths.

The Australian Government placed Peter in Fiji as a school Teacher, which finally made life a little bit easier, as Peter's wages were paid in Australian dollars. As a Teacher in Fiji, you were also required to take on a secondary role, so Peter also became the person in charge of the school garden / farm. The next three years was mainly spent either building boats or fishing on the island until Peter was promoted to the Principal of a co-education boarding school. Both Peter and Pam yearned for Australia and Peter eventually managed to secure a position teaching in Maroochydore where he remained for the next seventeen years.

As though life wasn't hard enough, Peter then decided he needed to take a break from teaching, so he decided to learn all about computer networks. The next three years was spent wiring and connecting major networks and writing computer applications for three different systems. It took them a long time but finally Peter and Pam raked up enough money to place a part deposit on a small six acre hobby farm that also had a few strawberry plants. Although Peter had an interest in gardening, it was Pam who really knew her way around the farm and decided to focus on growing strawberries.

In 1993 Peter and Pam bought a ten acre farm in Palm Woods and were lucky enough to be able to lease an adjoining 20 acres where their strawberry business started to grow. Peter had studied hard and had completed a double major in English and Maths which was and still is an extremely rare achievement. The point was that he now had twice the qualifications required to read about strawberries as well as being able to count them. His skill in writing computer programs also allowed him to write a financial payroll application for farmers, as well as a farm production application, which is still used by farmers today. Believe it or not Peter actually came up with the name Pay Pal for his program but he did not register the name.

Pam and Peter then made the commitment to get into strawberries and Peter became a driving force in both the State Strawberry Association and the Australian Strawberry Association. As though that wasn't enough Peter became a member of the Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers as well as a position on the Committee of Direction of Fruit Growers. Peter then became the first person to import a superior variety of strawberry into Australia and that only took him a measly eight years.

There were many varieties of strawberries in Australia, but most of them were not being grown successfully, until they finally found a variety that was better suited to our farms which made Peter and Pam the industry leaders. You would have thought that all this hard work and success would have made them a fortune, but the truth is that life was still quite a struggle. In 2005 our hard working couple bought a 160 acre farm in Saint Road in Ningi, where they established a new strawberry farm until 2009 when they finally settled on the current farm of forty acres.

Well you may think that this is the end of the story, but just when you think that our couple have done everything required to finally achieve the best strawberry farm in the world, Pam throws a spanner into the works by suggesting that they change their focus from strawberries to raspberries. Apparently Queensland has five varieties of native raspberries that grow wild, so the climate was right for them to succeed, but at that time very few people were growing raspberries commercially. Peter and Pam had achieved a major milestone by being recognised as amongst the best strawberry growers in Australia, together with Elvin and Linda Lock (there is another story for another time) but now Pam suggests it's time for a change.

I would have loved to be a fly on the wall when they approached the bank for a ridiculous amount of money to set up a new venture, or maybe I should say a new adventure in the lives of the McGruddy family. I don't know where they found the time to have babies but understand that both Peter and Pam can be extremely resourceful when required.

Well the list of achievements continues with the new raspberry farm being the first in Australia with greenhouses and tunnels, for which the components had to be imported from a number of countries. Peter has also developed a system of measuring the ability for a plant to grow and has now developed a fertiliser that has the potential to enhance the growth of almost any plant.

I told you that story, so that the next time you look at our Secretary and suggest that he may or may not be able to catch a fish; you may just give him and his beautiful motivator, the benefit of the doubt.



