

FISH 'N' TIPS

JANUARY 2021



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 2021

Hello Everyone,

Well, I would like to start by wishing you all a Happy New Year. It looks like the new year has started with a few sour notes. Our latest Covid scare has meant that our Annual General Meeting has been postponed for at least a week, so hopefully we will be able to hold it on Monday 18th January 2021. Please make sure that you arrive at 6:30 pm as the RSL has limited our numbers to just fifty, after which the doors may need to be closed.

I would like to wish a speedy recovery to a few members who have had a set back to their health. Dearest George has had his share of troubles but it looks like he is now on the road to recovery. Angie is now minus a Gaul Bladder and Steve is still recovering after an arthroscopy. Both Ony and Rosemary have also been a bit under the weather so hopefully all are headed for a speedy recovery.

We have lost a couple of members who have decided not to re-join but we have also gained a few so I would like to wish you a warm welcome and hope that our club offers you the companionship you are looking for.

Congratulations to Tammy on her recent capture of a 96kg Black Marlin, a fish almost twice her weight.

Stay well and I hope to see you all on Monday 18th

Keith Kable

President



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.

Fishing Report December 2020

Christmas must have been a very busy time for most of us because there were not too many of our members fishing during that period.

There were not too many opportunities for an offshore adventure, however, there were four inshore fishos who managed to capture quite a few fish, weighing in thirty three legal monsters.

The Offshore reports have plenty of Mackerel, Dolphin Fish and Marlin being caught at Mooloolaba and the Gold Coast but there is nothing to report near Cape Moreton.

It may well be because the warm currents have not been coming close to shore or maybe the bait hasn't come in close enough. Whatever the reason, hopefully the fish will come in soon.

The monthly fishing competitions will commence on 1st January 2021, not that you will be able to launch your boat amongst the hundreds of other boats that are currently visiting Bribie Island.

Please be careful and make sure that you carry out your preventative maintenance before you launch your boat. We have had a lot of rain lately so the last thing you want is water in your fuel.

Make sure that you start your motor before you leave home as it could be a very costly exercise if you need to be towed back.

All the best for 2021

Monthly Comp December 2020

Total No of fish 33

Ladies Inshore

Winner		Points	
Runner		Points	

Ladies Offshore

Winner		Points	
Runner		Points	

Mens inshore

Winner	Winnett Ron	Points	85
Runner	Plant Trevor	Points	76
3rd	Casey John	Points	36

Mens Offshore

Winner		Points	
Runner		Points	

Lucky Draw

Name
Phillips Michael

[The Offshore Challenge](#)

Summertime brings about a whole new challenge, when it comes to fishing offshore, as this is the time when we have the opportunity to capture fish that dreams are made of. Every year the tropical currents come down from the north and raise the water temperature from approximately eighteen degrees to well over twenty-six.

The warm currents also bring massive schools of small bait fish which are closely followed by all the Pelagic species, which live in the pelagic zone of ocean waters – being neither close to the bottom nor near the shore – in contrast with demersal fish that do live on or near the bottom, and reef fish that are associated with coral reefs.

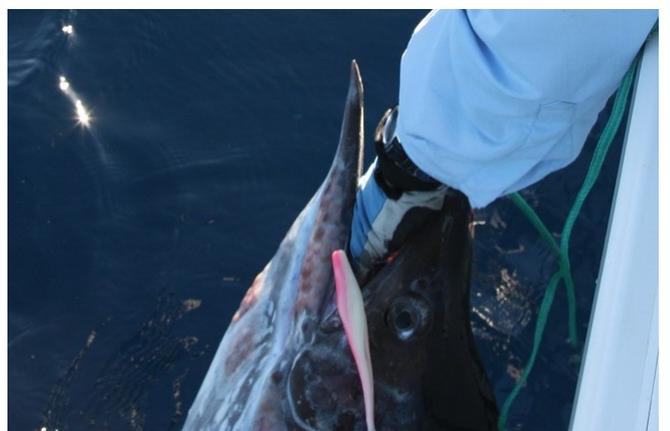
Black Marlin, Blue Marlin and Striped Marlin are just some of the billfish species that are available but there are also a host of other species that are on offer. Dolphin Fish, Yellowfin Tuna, Striped Tuna, Mackerel Tuna, Big Eye Tuna, Long Tail Tuna, Bonito, Spanish, Spotted and School Mackerel as well as Wahoo, Cobia and Kingfish are all out there right now. All you have to do is find some good weather and head on out with a lot of patience.

Brett Waters has been really keen to catch a marlin and I have been trying to teach him everything I know but although we have been out on quite a few occasions, we have been unable to hook one of these monsters. We have come close on quite a few occasions and there was even one time when Brett hooked a 120kg Striped Marlin but the excitement was short lived.

There are a number of ways that you can target marlin but the most common method is by trolling skirted lures behind your boat. It doesn't have to be a big boat but if you are travelling in a smaller boat, you do need to be very aware of the weather. I can remember just a few Years ago when Chris Roberts asked me to take him Marlin Fishing in his 4.6 meter Aluminium dingy. It was a great result when he caught a Black Marlin in amongst all the other 50 and 60 foot boats. (Photos are shown below)



There was another day when Ron Winnett caught an 80kg Black Marlin on a very small fishing rod meant for snapper. Ron simply cast out a soft Plastic lure which must have been exactly what this marlin was looking for.



There have also been several other Marlin caught by members of our club over the years but the thrill of a catching a Marlin never seems to go away.



It was just last week when Tammy asked me to take her out to catch a Marlin even though just six weeks prior she had undergone knee surgery to both knees. Still unable to walk confidently let alone stand up in a boat Tammy arrived ready for the challenge.

It was Monday morning. The wind had dropped to just ten knots but the rain had set in. Brett had decided to go out in his boat and follow us out to the Trench just twenty kilometers north east. We had only just rounded Skirmish Point when we saw a rain squall out towards Cape Moreton so we decided to wait at Bulwer underneath a couple of umbrellas until the storm had passed.

We had received a hot tip telling us that there were hundreds of Marlin and Sailfish at the bottom of the Trench and although we did get a few bites on the lures but ten hours of trolling failed to get any results. It appeared that the hot tip had also been shared amongst twenty other boats all sitting in the same spot.

Tuesday morning was predicted to be a much better day with almost no wind until about 3:00pm. Brett had decided to come along in our boat, so he met us at the ramp at 4:45am. Everything was looking good even with about thirty other boats all wanting to launch their boats at the same time. There must have been a lot of very sick workers that day.

As we came out of Spinnaker Sound Marina we were greeted by a pretty magical sunrise and the water was like glass as we headed under the bridge.

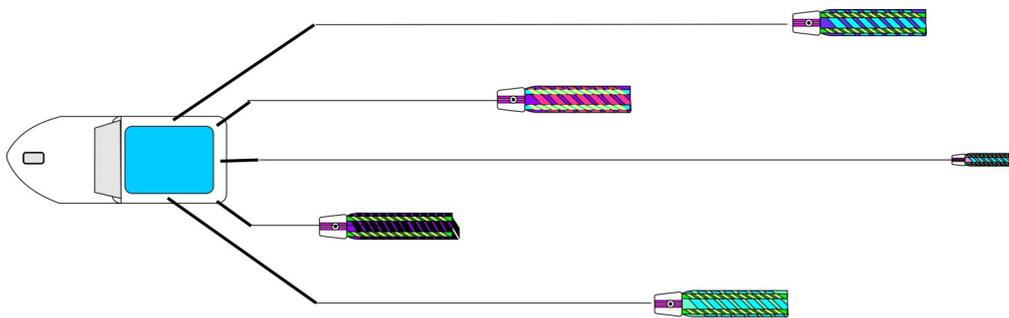


I had decided on a new plan that would keep us away from all the other boats, so we headed straight out to Cape Moreton. The bay was like glass so we opened up the throttle and cruised along at just under 60kph. Even Comboyuro Point was pretty smooth with just a couple of ripples as we crossed the bar. As we rounded the Cape we dropped the lures and started trolling.

We had bought some pretty ordinary garfish the day before and had rigged them up as swimbaits covered with a

few of the Grubbsta skirts. Mark Grubb's lures have proved themselves during the past eighteen years that I have been using them and I would have just used the lures ,except my hot tip mentioned that the sailfish really preferred the garfish.

No sooner had we placed the lures in the water, when one of the rods went off. It only lasted for a few seconds until the fish moved to a second lure but alas, no hook up. We normally troll five lures and a teaser to give us every chance. Two on each side in staggered formation and one a long way back called the shotgun.



This pattern will allow the lures to swim in between each other without tangling when you change direction



These are some examples of Grubbsta lures/ skirts

The teaser can be a wide variety of fish attracting devices from things that splash on the top of the water to holographic fish that swim in schools. I prefer a rectangular block of wood with mirrors that will reflect the light.

If you remember back sixty years to when you were in school, you may have learnt that when it comes to light waves, the angle of incidence equals the angle of reflection, so if the sun (the angle of incidence) strikes the mirror which is just under the water it will reflect a flash of light a long way towards the bottom of the ocean.



These are two teasers that I made out of a piece of pine

Now as much as always talk to the fish, I almost never hear a reply so I can only go on the theory which states that the noise of the outboard motor and the turbulence that is created by the propellor looks and sounds very much like a school of bait fish being attacked by a school of predatory fish, so by adding my teaser the reflected light could be very similar to the flashes of light reflecting off the sides of the predators. All this is supposed to attract the bigger fish to the back of the boat.

With all this magical theory we set out to find the fish. Well it not quite as simple as that because there is a lot more information that needs to be considered when chasing pelagic fish; for instance, there is a much greater chance of finding the fish if you can find the bait. The chance of finding the bait is much greater where the water is warmer so you have to check the Sea Surface Temperatures. There are a lot of current lines that collect all the flotsam like dead algae, tree branches, old party balloons, large fishing floats and all sorts of rubbish where small fish hide, so if you follow the current lines your chance of finding fish increases.

Birds are a great indicator of where the bait may be congregating and a flock of birds diving into the water is a great place to start looking.



Bait schools or Bait balls can be either under the surface or on top. This is a school of bait fish on the surface

Anyway back to trolling. We kept trolling towards Shallow Tempest and then on to Deep Tempest and then headed east until we hooked up onto a Striped Tuna. A lovely little fish about 2.5kg. The ocean floor was now about 165meter below and the colour of the water had become a beautiful dark blue, almost purple. As beautiful as it was there were no fish to be seen. Not a sign except the occasional black bird that was also looking for a meal so we continued to head north along the 160 meter line.

Finally, after almost nine hours of trolling, a Black Marlin took one of the lures. Brett suggested that Tammy take the rod so in a flash Tammy was sitting on the esky with the rod. The fishing rod was bent hard over with the reel screaming as two or three hundred meters of line disappears into the distance. I grabbed the camera and let the boat idle forward while Brett wound in all the rods, the teaser and fitted the rod bucket to Tammy's waist. While I frantically tried to take a photo of the dancing Marlin, Brett took control of the boat and managed to keep the fish on the port side allowing Tammy to keep a tight line on the fish.

I would like to say that everything had calmed down but I was still in a panic trying to capture at least one photo of the Marlin before it disappeared into the depths.



Brett had managed to keep the marlin on the port side and in doing so, he kept the boat going in ever decreasing circles. This disorients the fish and helps to bring him in a lot more quickly. It wasn't long before the fish was swimming along side the boat until I was able to grab its bill. I had no sooner grabbed the fish by the bill when it started swiping its head in an attempt to free itself almost pulling me over the side.

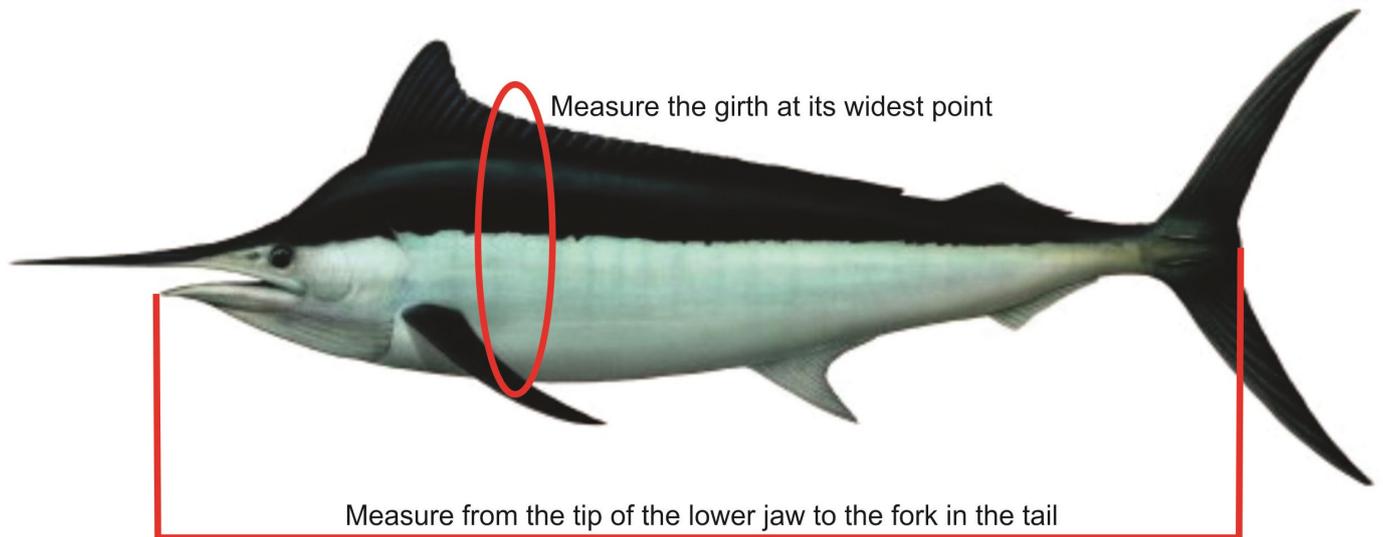
Brett was able to remove the hooks even though the marlin was still thrashing up and down. After about two minutes, the fish settled down and we were able to lift the fish into the boat for a quick photo.



Everything was in a bit of a rush to try and get the fish back into the water as quickly as possible, to try to increase its chance of recovery. Finally, calm was restored in the boat as Brett swam the fish to revive it. It was only about ten minutes when Brett released the fish as we watched it slowly disappear into the depths below.



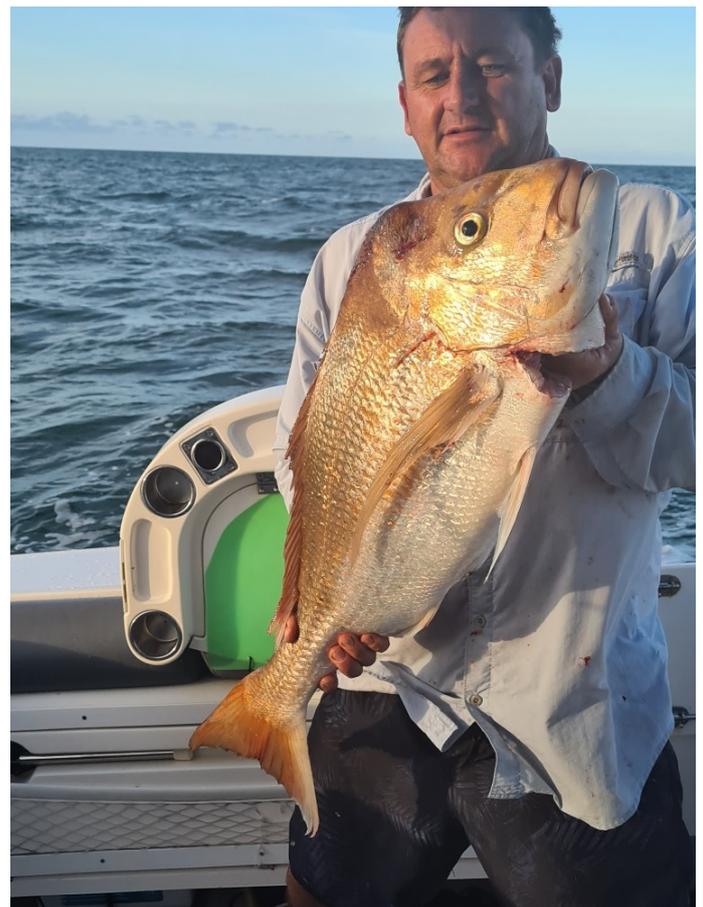
After measuring the Marlin from the middle of its tail to the tip of the bottom jaw we found the fish to be at least 96kg.



Although not a foolproof system, if the measurements are fed into the Marlin Calculator, (available on the Club web site) the final results have proved to be quite an accurate system.

It was now almost 2:00pm and we were well north of Caloundra so we decided to head for home as the trip would take us at least another two hours.

[Other Noteworthy Catches](#)



Brett Waters Caught this Massive Snapper weighing 19.6lbs or 8.89kg on a live slimy mackerel

Other Noteworthy Catches



Tammy with a 6.23kg Cobia



Frank with a 7.34Kg Dolphin Fish



Brett Waters tried to help this bloke revive this Giant Trevally weighing almost 60Kg



Fishing attire when you don't have a canopy

Administering CPR to Yourself

YOU CAN NEVER READ THIS TOO MANY TIMES!!!

Try to remain calm, and **REMEMBER THIS** as it is a possible life saver!

Let's say it's 7:25 pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five km from the hospital nearest your home. Unfortunately, you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

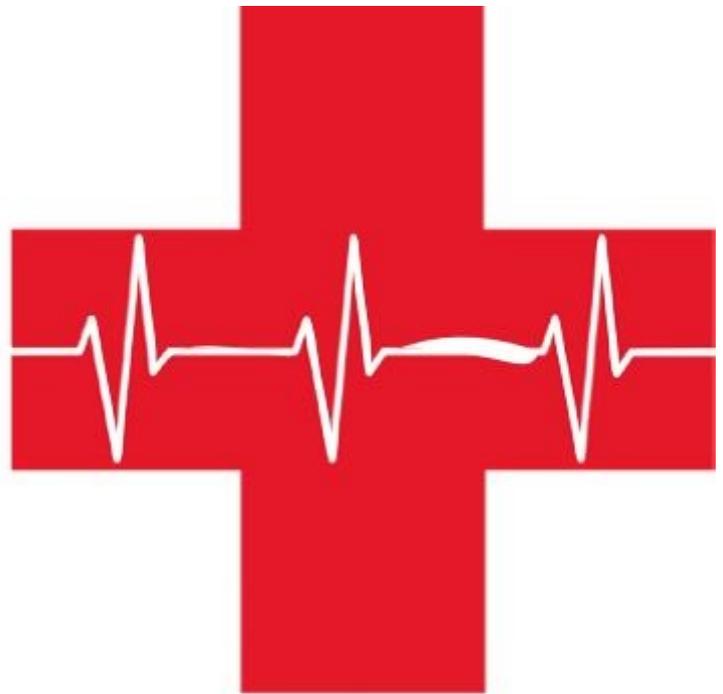
Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm.



In this way, heart attack victims can get help or to a hospital. Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives.

A cardiologist says: "If everyone who gets this message & kindly tells 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life"



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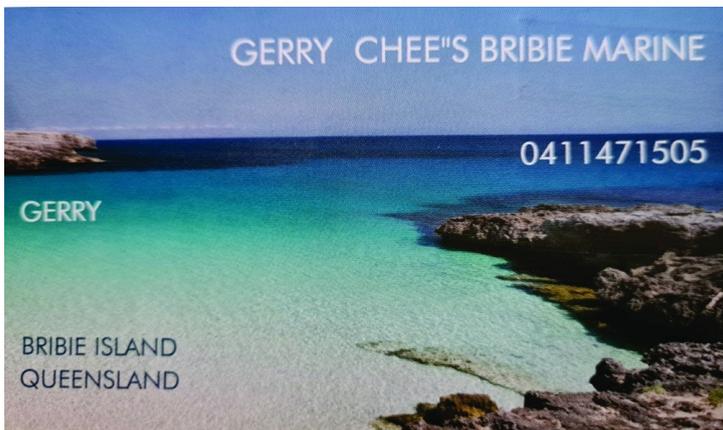
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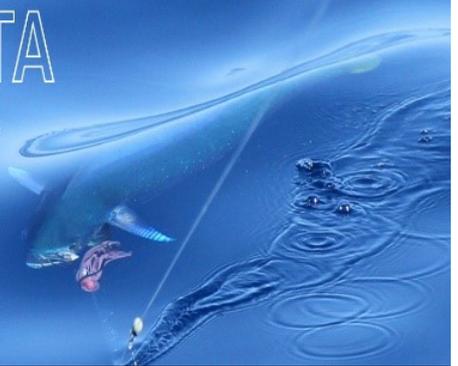


Owners of Browns Mitre 10 on Bribie Island, Michael and Samantha Brown have very kindly agreed to support us by donating a \$20 gift card each month to be used as a raffle prize at our monthly general meeting. In addition, they have offered a 5% discount on all fishing, marine and bait goods when members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

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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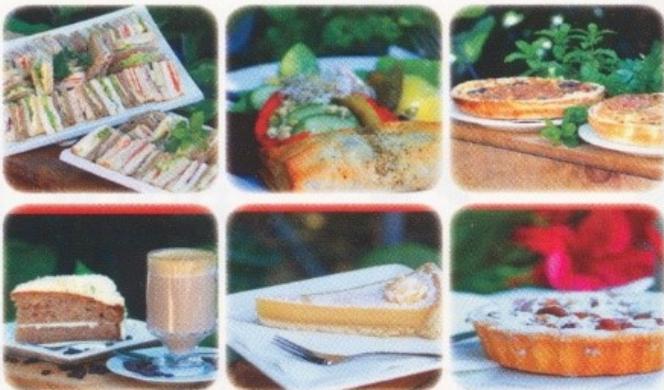
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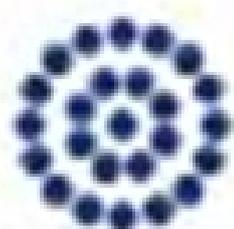
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Lifeline

**Saving
Lives**

Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.