

FISH 'N' TIPS

Never let the truth stand in the way of a good fishing story!

March 2021

***New Barramundi Record
for
Trevor Bourke***





**PRESIDENT'S
REPORT
March 2021**

Hello everyone ,

I have been asked to write up this report a little earlier than usual as we now have new writers in our members of David and Zeny Francis. So a great welcome and all the best in keeping us up to date with current affairs within the club and any special events you think we may be interested in.

I am sure they would appreciate any photos and stories that you have that may relate to our Club or interesting articles about yourselves as a way to get to know new members or old members. As this is an early report, I don't have a lot to say that won't be covered by other writers but this is prior to Sunday's BBQ where a few stories emerge. I would like to mention the terrible crime carried out on Mike and Margaret Philips in the form of a Break and Enter on their home last week and we hope the perpetrators are soon caught and severely punished. Also a small shout out to Trevor and Rosemary who have had the week from hell this last week away at Monduran Dam. This report on the dam I think is being covered by our esteemed writer in

Frank Oostenbroek but congrats to Bruce Carey, our loveable poet and Trevor Bourke for their great Barramundi catches.

Please keep up to date with the sign on forms now available for all upcoming events as accommodations are scarce and please help out for our small but needed Clean Up Australia day on the 7th March at 6:00am to 11:00am at Spinaker Sound Public Boat ramp with Coffee and Cake after at The Beach Shack. Bye for now and best of luck in your fishing efforts .

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.

Monthly Comp February 2021

Total No of Fish 51 Inshore

Fishing Report

February Comp has been very slow mainly because of the wind We have over one hundred members any only 7 men and two ladies managed to weigh in fish.

There were no weigh in for off shore

One nice dusky for Marilyn!



Ladies Inshore

Place	Name	Points	No of Fish
Winner	Winnett Carole	29	3
R/up	Johnson Meg	20	2

Mens Inshore

Place	Name	Points	No of Fish
Winner	Winnett Ron	95	15
R/up	Plant Trevor	83	15
3rd	Casey John	45	11
4th	Bourke Trevor	24	4
5th	McGruddy Peter	16	2
6th	Patterson Richard	9	2
7th	Phillips Michael	2	2

Lucky Draw

Name
Bourke Trevor

Photo Competition

March



The Winner All Puffed Out by Loris Roubin

Thank you all for taking the time to send in your entries.

As many of you have discovered, there are a host of interesting things that can be found on the beach. Some can simply be photographed as they appear, others can be manipulated as was the case with “Sex on the Beach” but then there are the things that need a little more investigation.

“Sex on the Beach” sounds like something you can only experience in a penal colony. Great photo by Sandy Casey. Nice background of Norfolk Island, but the bottle is just a little out of focus.

Tammy was lucky to find the big cat “Stranded” on Banksia Beach. I liked the novel approach by using the anchor chain as the main area of focus. Nice composure by using the Glasshouse Mountains in the background.

I really loved the “footprint”. At first it just looks like a normal footprint but if you look a little more closely, the footprint looks like it is embossed. Alison Herring assures me that it is a normal footprint, but it is the light that makes it seem as though each toe is coming up out of the sand. A great shot. Clear well exposed and well presented.

The **“Rippled Reflection”** by Adrienne West scored comments like “I love this photo and think that it's very appealing. The quality and lighting is excellent as is the focus. I'm not sure it's very original but I don't think that matters. The reflections are captured so well. It definitely adheres to the theme.”

Sheila Oostenbroek showed us some **“Boat Ramp Maintenance”** and scored these comments “I would like to give my vote to BOAT RAMP MAINTENANCE. Mainly because it is local, and we can identify with it easily but also it shows to have 11 bright and varied elements in the photo.”

I must admit that the Caption **“All Puffed Out”** was a very clever way of introducing the Puffer Fish. A photo of a dead Toad Fish lying on the beach is not very appealing, but by bringing your camera down to the level of your subject was most probably the smartest move that Loris Roubin could have made. Moving the fish so that it was facing the sun meant that there were no shadows on its face and by lying on your belly on the sand meant that you were able to hold the camera still and ensure that the fish was totally in focus. The judges' comments included:

- Pleasing colour with contrast between light and dark
- Not a plain sand background but interesting objects in the background without being overpowering either
- Seems like full sunlight but no glare from harsh light. Shadow well placed behind, to the side
- Sharp focus on foreground object with background objects slightly blurred
- Object centred, suits this composition, well cropped
- Adherence to theme - unlikely to find this in another setting other than beach

Thank you all for your great photos. I hope you enjoyed the challenge. Thank you also to the four Judges for their selections and comments.

The theme for the month of March is

“Famous Brands”

Remember the judging criteria before you press that button.

General Appeal / Presentation
Quality of the Photo / lighting/ Exposure
Focus
Originality
Adherence to the Theme

THE EXPERT'S TIPS FOR THE PEBBLE BEACH COMP 13TH MARCH 2021 BY TREVOR PLANT

I have been asked to do a quick screed on the fishing at Pebble Beach seeing I spend so much time there and people are under the impression that I'm the expert here. Well, I don't know about that but I do consider Pebble Beach as part of my back yard. The dreaded black weed has been around but, with all the wild weather and cooling sea temperatures, it should be all but gone in the next few weeks. Hopefully, on the day of the competition, conditions will be ripe for a great day's fishing!

Recommended Fishing Gear

To start with, spend a few moments to look at the fishing gear you are likely to take. In short the go is as light as possible. I prefer to use 3kg line (no leader) on a light rod with a small spinning reel (mainly a Shimano 2500). Likewise a smallish sinker with just enough



to cast sufficiently. However the sinker weight you use will depend on the conditions. If there is a stiff south easter, you will need to go heavier. However, if you have a north easter, the wind will be behind you which makes casting a dream. As for hooks, I prefer No 4 to a No2, the smaller size if there are a few Whiting around.

Bait Suggestions

Now for the right bait. Yabbies are great but you will need to get them the day before or get up really, really early since it is low tide around 4am in the morning. If you are flush with cash, try live worms as any Whiting around will not be able to resist them. Failing that, peeled prawns are reasonably effective.

Likely Species to be Caught

The creatures you are likely to come across are whiting which I mentioned previously and some of the Whiting at Pebble Beach are monsters with several I have seen in excess of 40cm. Of course there are Bream, Tarwhine with the occasional Grunter, Flounder and Flathead. We will not mention Long Toms and their acrobatics when hooked. There is also a number of Stingrays, so keep your bait moving otherwise you will latch on to a freight train heading to Tangalooma.



Recommended Tactics for Success

Consider your tactics. As at around 6.am, the tide will be on its way in, meaning it may be worthwhile having a wade out. I wade using a keeper bag & landing net (very important) tied to a bait belt. With the keeper bag, make sure you have a clip at the neck otherwise the fish swim out the top. I use a toggle clip like the ones you find on hats & sunglasses . As for a net, the small nets you get from Big W at \$12 are ideal, but make sure you glue the fitting on otherwise all you will end up at the end of the trip is the fitting. Make sure you are wearing good sandshoes or wading boots in case you come across any nasties which can include broken glass & bits of old crab pots. I also take a fishing jacket to keep my fishing tackle, pliers etc. It is important to be as “hands free” as possible.



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Editor’s Note: *Sturdy heavy rubber wading boots with zip-up ankle protection, can be purchased from BCF at Morayfield or, (I presume, Anaconda. My pair cost about \$55.00 from memory. When I purchased my pair recently, the sales lady at BCF told me a tale about her son, who, having cut his foot badly on a protruding shell case whilst wading in the water at Bribie, ended up in Hospital*



on an anti-biotic drip for 5 daysand he was in his 20s!). For those who are not fussed on wading and getting up close & personal with the sea life, there is always the beach as you walk in the direction of the fish trap. Pick a spot about half way down cast, your line, then put the rod in a rod holder and sit and wait. Cast out towards the weed bank and don’t be deterred by the lack of deep water. The Whiting like the first of the “flood tide” and schools move along the edge of the weed banks looking for a feed.

Anyway, that’s about it from me, so have a great fish and good luck.

Trevor Plant

BRIBIE ISLAND RSL SOCIAL FISHING CLUB

CALENDAR 2021

JANUARY

Mon 11th January
 Thu 31st Dec – Fri 29th Jan
 Sun 31st January

AGM/ Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
BBQ- 4:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 29th 6pm

FEBRUARY

Mon 8th February
 29th Jan – 26th Feb
 Sun 28th February

Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
BBQ- 4:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 26th 6pm

MARCH

Sun 7th March
 Mon 8th March
 Sat 13th March
 26th Feb – 26th Mar
 Sun 28th March

Clean Up Australia
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Pebble Beach In-Shore Competition
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
BBQ- 4.00pm TOC-H (Sausages)
 Weigh in – Friday 26th 6pm

APRIL

Mon 12th April
 Wed 21st April
 26th Mar – 30th April
 Sun 2nd May

Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Somerset Dam Freshwater 1 day Comp
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
Pie & Peas 3:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in- Friday 30th 6pm

MAY

Mon 10th May
 Fri 21st – Sun 23rd May
 30th April – 28th May
 Sun 30th May

Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Maroochydoore Maroochy River Bungalows
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
Soup- 3:00pm. TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 28th 6pm

JUNE

Mon 14th June
 28th May – 25th June
 Sun 27th June

Thursday night raffles RSL Club
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
 Inshore Monthly Comp- **Bream Only**
 Offshore Monthly Comp- **Pearl Perch**
Bowls afternoon
(Times/Venue/Food TBA)
 Weigh in – Friday 25th 6pm

JULY

Mon 12th July
 Sat 24th July
 25th June – 30th July

Thursday night raffles RSL Club
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Christmas in July (Golf Club)
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
No BBQ
 Weigh in – Friday 30th 6pm

AUGUST

Mon 16th August
 30th July – 27th Aug
 Sun 29th August
Thursday night raffles RSL Club
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
Chicken & Chips- 3:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 27th 6pm

SEPTEMBER

Mon 13th September
 Sun 19th September
 27th Aug - 24th Sep
 Sun 26th September
Thursday night raffles RSL Club
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Woorim Summer Whiting Comp
 Inshore Monthly Comp
Summer Whiting Only
 Offshore Monthly Comp - **Snapper**
BBQ- 4:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 24th 6pm

OCTOBER

Mon 11th October
 Fri 15th - Sun 17th
 24th Sep – 29th Oct
 Sun 31st October
Thursday night raffles RSL Club
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Rainbow Beach (weekend away)
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
 Weigh in – Friday 29th 6pm
BBQ- 4:00pm TOC-H

NOVEMBER

Tue 2nd November
 Mon 8th November
 Tue 16th -Thu 18th
 November
 29th Oct - 26th Nov
 Sun 28th November
Thursday night raffles RSL Club
Melbourne Cup Solander/Charlies
 Members Meeting RSL 7.00pm
Somerset 2 Day Freshwater Comp (Wednesday & Thursday) Jack Daley & Otto Scott Trophy Comp
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
BBQ- 4:00pm TOC-H
 Weigh in – Friday 26th 6pm

DECEMBER

Sat 11th December
 Mon 13th December
 26th Nov – 31st Dec
Thursday night raffles RSL Club
Trophy night
NO GENERAL MEETING
 Inshore & Offshore Monthly Comps
 Weigh in – Thurs 31st 6pm

Members Meetings are held in the
 Garden room of the RSL Club

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mon 18 th Jan	Mon 1 st Mar	Wed 7 th Apr	Wed 5 th May
Mon 5 th Jul	Mon 6 th Sep	Mon 1 st Nov	Mon 6 th Dec

18/02/2021 V3.0

(GREY HIGHLIGHT = TO BE ADVISED)

JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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MAY

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JUNE

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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JANUARY

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FISHING COMPETITIONS

13	Start/End of Monthly Comps Fri 6PM
19	Pebble Beach Competition 13th Mar
	Bream (Inshore) / Pearl-Perch (Offshore) Comp: 28th May - 25th Jun
	Woorim Summer Whiting Comp 19th Sep
	Whiting (Inshore) / Snapper (Offshore) Comp: 27th Aug - 24th Sep
	Flathead Comp Fri 25th Jun to Fri 30th Jul as well as normal Comp

FISHING TRIPS

	Somerset 1 day Comp: Wed 21st Apr (Fishing on Sat)
	Maroochydore Fri 21st - Sun 23 May (Fishing on Sat)
	Rainbow Beach Comp Fri 15th - Sun 17 Oct (Fishing on Sat)
	Somerset 2 day Comp: Tue 16th - Thu 18th Nov (Fishing Wed & Thu)

MEETINGS

1	Monthly Meetings 7PM RSL
11	AGM 7PM 11th Jan 2021 & 2022 TBA
11	Trophy Night Sat 11 Dec

HOLIDAYS

1	Public Holidays (Ekka Show Day 11 Aug Brisbane, 9 Aug Bribie Island)
1	School Holidays Fri 1st Jan to Tue 26th Jan. Fri 2nd Apr to Sun 18th Apr. Sat 26th Jun to Sun 11th Jul. Sat 18th Sep to Mon 4th Oct. Sat 11th Dec to Fri 31 Dec. (dates are inclusive)

EVENTS

7	Monthly BBQ
27	TOC-H/(as advised) 4.00PM (3.00PM Apr-Aug)
27	MORNING TEA Dates TBA Midweek ?
27	Thu Night Raffle (Thick Outline Border)
24	Bowls Afternoon (Times/Venue/Food - TBA)
2	Christmas in July Sat 24 Jul
2	Melbourne Cup
7	"Clean Up Australia" Day Sun 7 Mar
7	Mothers Day - Sun 9th May

MEETINGS

18/02/2021	Committee Meetings Mon/Wed 4PM
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HOLIDAYS

1	Public Holidays (Ekka Show Day 11 Aug Brisbane, 9 Aug Bribie Island)
1	School Holidays Fri 1st Jan to Tue 26th Jan. Fri 2nd Apr to Sun 18th Apr. Sat 26th Jun to Sun 11th Jul. Sat 18th Sep to Mon 4th Oct. Sat 11th Dec to Fri 31 Dec. (dates are inclusive)

New Publicity Officers



In a moment of weakness (or simply stupidity!) David & Zeny Francis have volunteered to become the assistant editors of Fish 'N' Bits. For those of you who do not know us, we have been members of the Club for approximately 2 years. Prior to moving to Bribie, we were residents of Darwin for over 32 years. We had moved there from Brisbane in 1986 where we lived at Holland Park following our marriage in Brisbane in 1984. David is originally from Sydney but has not lived there since 1970 when he moved to PNG for work, living in Port Moresby until departing for Brisbane in 1983.

Zeny is originally from Manila in the Philippines, where she worked as a secretary before initially meeting David in Port Moresby where she was visiting her sister who worked for the PNG Government. Prior to his retirement, David was a solicitor in sole practice. In between her role as mother of our 3 adult children, Zeny was the firm's conveyancing clerk/ practice manager.

Despite owning a boat and having lived in Darwin for many years, we do not claim to have any particular fishing expertise or knowledge so you will have to bear with us each. Given our combined lack of knowledge, we will be heavily reliant upon you, the Club's members each month for the provision of information and articles for insertion in Fish 'N' Bits each month, so please be warned, you may be approached for your assistance in the form of articles for publication.

Frank's shoes will be hard to fill but we will do our best. Any complaints should be submitted to the President who has assured us that they will be studiously ignored!

Monduran Mishaps

Monduran Dam or Lake Monduran means Big Water and it certainly has that even though the dam is only at 46%. A popular fishing and recreation spot today, the Fred Haigh Dam/Lake Monduran was originally built in order to secure the Bundaberg region's sugar industry. The industry was too reliant on rainfall and on dwindling underground water supplies. As a flow-on it would also help to ensure the stability of local businesses. Fred Haigh, Irrigation and Water Supply Commissioner (Qld Government), and Mr Ben Anderson, Chairman of the Bundaberg District Irrigation Committee, are credited with being the driving forces behind the building of the dam. The dam is constructed on the Kolan River approximately 14 miles (23km) north of Gin Gin. The Dam wall is made from Earth and rockfill to a height 50.5m. Its Storage Capacity: 586,000 Megalitres and covers an area of 13 acres with a Catchment Area of 1,310 square km.

I had been a long time since I went fishing on Monduran Dam and the thrill of hooking one of those big Barramundi had been playing on my mind for quite some time. I had witnessed the capture of a 123cm Barramundi on my boat in 2007 and have personally caught many over the meter mark and on each occasion, I have felt the rush of adrenalin flowing through my body leaving my arms shaking for the following thirty minutes.

The Pelagic season was nearly over, and the weather had not been conducive to fishing offshore for a couple of weeks, so I asked a few club members to see if they would be interested in sharing the accommodation at Monduran for a few days. There are a few options when it comes to accommodation ranging from a tent site, a cabin, a fully furnished house or even a houseboat. I had decided on a house for four nights. Eight members had decided to come along so the cost for accommodation would be \$87:00 each.

Two queen beds and four bunk beds would suit us nicely. Trevor and Rosemary in one queen, Tammy and I in the other and the four boys on the bunks. Trevor Bourke and Keith Kable are used to sleeping together as strange as that me sound but it would be a new experience for Jim Kennedy and Bruce Carey.



Everything was set. Tammy and I would take our green monster, Trevor and Keith in Trevor's boat, Bruce and Jim in Jim's boat and Rosemary and Trevor in their tinny. Most of us left about 8:00am on Monday morning so although not in convoy we were just a few minutes apart. Trevor and Rosemary had decided to leave some later.

Heading north near Roy's Road, Tammy and I came across an accident between a large semi-trailer and a 4WD. A few people had stopped to help, and the police were on their way, so I notified the others and kept driving. Keith and Trevor, Bruce and Jim noticed a slight delay, but Rosemary and Trevor were delayed for quite some time.

The road north was great until the other side of Gympie where the road works slowed us down in a number of places. We decided to stop for a cup of coffee and a snack at the BP near the Torbanlea turn off just north of Maryborough. That is when I phoned Rosemary and Trevor to find out they had a flat tyre on the Trailer. I believe Trevor spent a bit of time searching for his mudguard because somehow it had disappeared.

Tammy and I arrived at Lake Monduran just after 12:30pm and checked into the house. It wasn't long after that the four boys arrived. It must have been about 2:30pm when Rosemary and Trevor arrived in good spirits, until we heard a bubbling sound from the front of their car. Trevor opened the bonnet to see where the noise was coming from, when we noticed that the car was bleeding a bright green liquid from the radiator.

A quick call to the RACQ and all should be right, or so we thought. Apparently, the car needed to be taken into Gin Gin where a qualified mechanic would be able to fix the car. It appears that the thermal fan had failed and could no longer cool the radiator. Great! Just order a new one and everything will be ok.

Meanwhile, we all went fishing while Trevor worked out his car troubles. It was a good introduction, and everyone had become familiar with the layout of the Dam, so we were all ready for the onslaught early in the morning. This would be our first night at Lake Monduran, so we decided to go to the pub at Gin Gin for dinner.

The menu at the Gin Gin pub catered well for all of us, but the term "rare" means that your steak would be cooked the whole way through leaving a brown profile as you sliced through the tender cut of rib fillet. The steak was very tender and tasted great after a busy day. All the others also enjoyed their meal.

The next morning started at 4:30am and everybody seemed very busy cooking bacon and eggs, boiling water for the thermoses as well as the mandatory cup of morning coffee. We offered to drop Trevor Plant's boat into the water, but he decided to stay home and check on the car's progress.

The lake was as smooth as glass so it didn't take us long to navigate to our fishing spot. No sooner had we started to troll through the trees, when Tammy's rod went off. It was a very aggressive strike, but it didn't take much drag. A short time later Tammy landed her first fish for the week. Not quite what we were looking for but a fish all the same.



The morning was perfect. Not a breath of wind. The fog had lifted and the sky was bright blue with just a few clouds.

As the morning passed the temperature became a bit warmer, and it wasn't long before warm turned to extremely hot. We decided to head back home for lunch about 11:00am when the temperature hit 41 °C and the water temperature reached 29.7°C. It appears that everyone else had the same Idea and all of us came back to the house for lunch. The stories had begun but everyone's stories seem to have a similar end. Catfish! Apparently, all our lures were very good at catching catfish. Trevor had been in touch with the Mechanic and he was going to look around to see if he could find a new fan.



Later that afternoon we all left to go out in search of barramundi. I had asked Rosemary and Trevor to come for a swim before we went fishing. The water in the main basin was about 32 meters deep and just beautiful. We splashed around for about thirty minutes and then proceeded up the dam to find a barramundi. I had fished here countless times so I didn't think that it would be all that difficult to catch a fish. Time had slipped away and at about 6:00pm, we noticed a bit of lightning on the horizon with a large thunderhead coming towards us. Trevor suggested that maybe we should head back in as the cloud looked quite threatening.



It was still quite light as we arrived back at the house. I had filled my esky with ice at just \$5:60 per bag, so the beers were just the right temperature. Lynette Carey had previously prepared a beautiful macaroni which Rosemary heated for dinner. Not only did Rosemary prepare dinner but she had prepared a salad, set the table and did all that you would expect from a fancy restaurant.



Tuesday morning had come and gone with the same result; plenty of hot sun and catfish. Still no barramundi, in fact not even a touch.

In stead of sleeping after lunch, Tammy and I decided to inspect the Boolboonda Tunnel. The Boolboonda Tunnel was built for a railway line to service the booming copper mining town of Mount Perry and support the agriculture of the area. Construction of the Boolboonda Tunnel began in 1883 and opened in 1884. The unlined and unsupported tunnel through rock is 192 metres in length, making it the longest unsupported railway tunnel in Queensland.



Wednesday morning and the alarm went off at 4:30 as usual, but people seemed to be moving a lot more slowly this morning. Could it be the water? Surely the wine wasn't off. Maybe it was that bottle of scotch that Bruce donated. I noticed that he didn't drink it and he was feeling fine.

It was just after 5:00am when life sprung into our Suzuki and it wasn't long before we were racing across the glistening water on the way to "B" Bay.

All the bays and interesting points have been named by the locals and maps showing each area can be found on the net. That is about the only thing that entered our net that morning. Another day of casting, Trolling and bird photography and not a barramundi in sight.

Thursday morning and we were all up bright and early. Trevor and Rosemary stayed behind again in the hope that some good news would head their way. There was a slight breeze that made the conditions just that little bit better. Tammy and I headed off a little earlier and headed off to “J” Bay.

I have heard that the Barramundi are a lazy fish and that you really need to make lots of casts to entice them to bite. Well, we made a thousand casts, and we were just about to move, when a big barramundi slammed my lure. I tried to control it, but the fish just kept ripping the line off my reel until it finally wound itself around a submerged tree.

Apparently, the fish wanted my lure for his collection and was never seen again. It was exciting for about a minute but not quite as exciting as the Bruce’s experience when he landed his 79cm barramundi at “B” bay, a *New Club Record* and where I had been fish for the last three days.

Not to be outdone, Bruce hooked another bigger fish that also took him around the vegetation and snapped his line after about five minutes.



While all this action was going on Trevor Bourke decided he wanted to join the club and landed a great barramundi. Everybody on the dam knew that Trevor had landed his first barra, because he and Keith were yahooping and high fiving all over the place.



We headed home at about 12:00pm to find out that although the mechanic had found one in Brisbane, the fan had somehow missed the truck and was still in the warehouse. I am not sure exactly what Rosemary said to the mechanic, but I would not want to be on the receiving side of that little outburst. If the fan had been on the truck it could have been fitted and everyone could have come home on Friday, BUT now Rosemary needed to find accommodation for another three days in the thriving metropolis of Gin Gin without a car.

That was a sad story but there were other things that needed to be celebrated. Two great barramundi and Keith's Curry for dinner. At least there was some chile in this curry. There was also a bit tiny bit of scotch left after Trevor and Rosemary drowned their sorrows and there were always a few bottles of wine.

We had offered to take Rosemary home with us the next morning but for better or worse, in sickness and in health Rosemary was staying with her devoted husband. Tammy and I left for home at 5:00am on Friday morning and stopped for a cup of coffee and a bite to eat near Maryborough when we noticed that one of the trailer tyres was flat in the bottom, so we quickly replaced it and continued on.

It was at this stage that Keith rang me and told us that Trevor Plant had collapsed and had injured his chin as he fell. A quick trip to the hospital saw Trevor admitted for a bit of patch work and an examination. Apparently, all was well, and he may have been suffering a bit of stress. The lack of fishing can do that to you.

As Tammy and I turned off the highway and headed for Bribie I felt a bit of a sway on the trailer. Looking back in the mirror I noticed that another one of the tyres on the trailer seemed to be flat but only on the bottom, so I decided to keep driving until I reached the servo in Ningi. I don't know how hot a tyre has to get before the rubber melts, but this tyre must have been pretty close.

I pumped up the tyre and although it was leaking slowly, I decided to continue driving praying that it wouldn't explode in the middle of Bribie Bridge. We made it home and later found that both tyres had suffered a problem with the valves. Shaun from Bridgestone fixed both tyres for \$30:00.

The week away was a lot of fun and new freshwater records were set. Trevor and Rosemary should be home next month. We will most probably go again but I think that we will wait until June or July when it is not quite as hot.

Some of our members are into nature so just a few photos for you guys. Lots of raptors including wedge tail eagles but I noticed a massive reduction of life in general compared to other times when the water level is much higher.







The Fishing Trip

*Frank says "Hey guys and girls, I have a plan.
let's go big Barra fishing to Monduran dam"
It sounds like fun and can't be that hard,
And it beats staying home gardening and mowing the yard.*

*So off we all set at a pretty fast gait,
The excitement was building, we could all hardly wait.
It was a race to the water, to get in one's boat,
As the first to catch one, would be able to gloat.*

*The time was ticking, and nothing was biting,
We should have stayed home and chased bloody Whiting.
Still no change on the second day,
And the look on our faces were full of dismay.*

*We have one day left to turn this around,
And by now Frank's grand plan is not looking so sound.
An encouraging voice said, "Bruce don't look so grim",
It was my coach and my skipper, the knowledgeable Jim.*

*It was our last chance to catch these elusive fish,
And to fulfil a dream and grant my lifetime wish.
After a long troll, my rod went wild,
Jim said, "calm down you're like an excited child".*

*I could see the fish, the hooks have been set,
And now it's over to Jim and his skill with the net.
The Barra was landed weighted, kissed, and let go,
Did we just catch the only Barra? Just did not know.*

*Trevor Bourke caught one, to show he was able,
And to show up his mate, our dear Mr Kable.
It was a fun filled few days, enjoyed by us all,
And I never doubted Frank's grand plan, and in my book he still stands tall.*

Bruce Carey

**I went fishing one morning but after a short time I ran out of prawns
Then I saw a redbelly black snake with a frog in his mouth..
Frogs are good barra bait.**



**Knowing the snake couldn't bite me with the frog in his mouth
I grabbed him right behind the head, took the frog,
and put it in my bait bucket.**

**Now the problem was how to Release the snake without getting bitten.
So, I grabbed my bottle of Jack Daniels and poured a little whiskey in its
mouth.**

**His eyes rolled back, he went limp. I released him into the lake
without incident and carried on fishing using the frog.**



**A little later, I felt a nudge on my foot.
It was that bloody snake,
with two more frogs!**



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

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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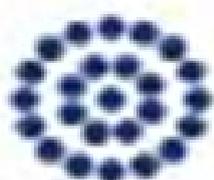
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