

CATCH



December 2019 Newsletter

The Catch - December 2019

Introduction

The Catch has been the title of our Clubs “newsletter” since inception. The discipline of producing a monthly newsletter, that was anxiously awaited by members in their letter box, was the driver that ensured Club communications took place regularly. Unfortunately, the pressures of the new decade, and the costs associated with its production and postage has seen it fall away to a large degree. As we know now it has been replaced to a great extent by our developing Website.

Today our 240 members are kept up to date through our regular emails and the website. Equally as important, the Committee can receive your thoughts of the directions you want the Club to take through return email.

There is a loyal set of members who attend regularly for our Friday Evening socials but to engage with the balance of our members we propose a version of the Catch by Email plus our Website.

So, Catch will be produced and circulated, we hope at a minimum 4 times per year. But it will rely on feedback from the members. If it doesn't resonate with you, if you don't find it valuable, it will be hard for your Committee to find the energy to pull this together.

Your Committee

Club News

We are pleased to announce two benefits being extended to all members this holiday period and beyond.

Merimbula Tackle World Sponsorship



Following the disastrous fire Tackleworld is back in action, as best they can manage, on the opposite side on Market street. Ron and Gael have offered all members a 15% discount off all shelf price (non discounted) gear in their shop upon presentation of your membership card. Bait and Fishing Licences are the only exclusions. Tackleworld have been our major sponsor for well on 20 years, they have had a rough 2019 and now require support from all our members and friends as they re-establish their business.

Holiday Period Bar Price Reduction

Come along to our Club on Friday Nights and spend some time with other members and guests over the holiday period and enjoy discounted drinks. These discounted prices will remain in place until at least the end of February. We will review and communicate what will happen to further bar pricing during February. There is a fresh range of bubbly and wines, and all your favourite beers, cold and ready for your enjoyment.

Up Coming Events

New Years Eve

Our rooms will be open again on 31 January for members and friends to enjoy one another company and “the best seat in town” for the fireworks.

We need to limit numbers and interest is high. Don't leave it too late if you want to come along. Email or put your name on the booking sheet at the Clubhouse.

Gala Weekend 4 and 5 January

Our Gala weekend and associated kayak raffle are our major fund raisers for the year. Have you placed it into your calendar? The Club needs your support – Ring Chris Young (0417 114 274) and make yourself available to assist with raffle ticket sales

Plan to take your family and friends out fishing on both Saturday and Sunday, present your catch to the Club for the charity auction and become eligible to win one of 28 different prize categories over the two days. Our wonderful sponsors have been very generous and allows us to make very attractive prize packages available to our anglers.

Come along on Sunday, pitch in, there will be plenty of jobs, better still give Chris a ring and make yourself available and we can schedule you in. Many hands make light work. A BBQ and drinks will be available all day. We have live entertainment commencing at 12:30 and presentations and the auction commence at 2pm.

Dusky Dash for Cash 1 and 2 February



This year Eve O'Brien Real Estate is sponsoring this annual event for members and friends.

Check our Web Site for details. It is fast approaching so lock it into your calendar.

Presidents Report

It's now been six weeks in the Presidents chair! My admiration for our past Presidents has grown daily over this period. The personal sacrifice these guys have made to the role is crazy and it's no wonder we haven't had stability in the role over recent years.

I don't intend to go the same way. Your Committee is supporting me 200%, stepping up to the challenges of running your Club, sharing the work load, with all of us committed to making sure that looking forward, our committee membership is rewarding and sustainable. Life / Committee balance is our focus.

Very few members attend our AGM so its appropriate that I share with you some of the challenges your Committee manages on your behalf all year. Did you know that during 2018 / 2019 financial year we had a turnover of \$127,000?

Did you know that it costs us \$20,000 every year to just keep our Club Rooms open and functional?

Our Bar is our largest "business" within the Club. It is a major source of expenditure and income.

Your Committee is wrapping its heads around the challenges of getting the **balance** between fishing (after all that's what we are here for!), social (a fundamental benefit of Club membership) and our business **right**.

Within the first week in my new role we held the Tri Estuary. What a buzz, it was a privilege to be part of the team that managed this successful event.

Further down I have shared with you the article taken out of the June July Catch of 2010, the official "opening" of our pontoon. This is OUR pontoon, we are responsible for its maintenance and ensuring it is safe and functional. Bega Council does reimburse us reasonable maintenance costs that we incur but we still provide labour and management. When two of the four mooring ropes had chafed through at some time Saturday 23rd November it was a moment of panic for me, thinking through the consequences should the other two let go as well!!!!

Well luck was with us with Glen Pollack (Polly) in town for another three days. He dived on the pontoon on the Sunday to secure a temporary additional mooring rope, and then worked with Lincoln Carter from Broadwater Engineering on the Tuesday to replace the broken moorings and get the pontoon secure again. And then flew out to work on the Wednesday. Huge thanks to Polly, the Club does owe him an ale or three – an irreplaceable Club Member.

So a timely reminder to all members, please, as you use or motor past the pontoon have a quick look and ensure all looks secure. Many eyes will ensure it remains safe and secure. We have done away with the unreliable water hosing equipment. Thanks.

I am looking forward to the holiday period, a chance to finally get fishing with family and friends and catch up with members over Xmas and Gala.

I wish everyone tight lines and a very merry Xmas and happy New Year.

Peter Haar

Fishing Wrap

2019 Tri Estuary

Held over the weekend of 9 and 10 November the event was very well attended.

Some very credible fish were presented to the judges. This was a 100% catch and release event with the Brag Mat and Photo being the evidence of capture.

The highlight was the enthusiastic participation of our community's kids.

Thanks to the families who embraced the competition and gave their generous time for their kids to participate.

Tackleworld coordinated all the sponsorship for this event – a huge thanks to Gael and Ron.



2020 Game Fishing Season

For Sea Mode the season has started early with a couple of trips already resulting in good catches of Albacore. The odd yellow fin and bluefin tuna have also been caught by boats in our waters, a great start to our season, memories of the seasons we enjoyed 20 years ago. The warm water, loaded with bait is on its way down.

Fishing Reports

Just a reminder that we get a prime spot in the local papers sports page, which is also published electronically, providing a great opportunity to market our club and region.

Chris Young compiles this report weekly and members are encouraged to share with Chris their fishing experiences. But more importantly their photographs.

Email your reports to admin@mbglac.com.au. Your emails will also make Chris's job easier.

More Club News

Jetty Update

Our Club Rooms and current Jetty were constructed by Club Members during the mid 1980s.

Our Club Jetty is now in need of major work if it is to continue to serve our members for the next 30 years. We could patch, up but your Committee has commenced the planning for the replacement of the jetty with a functional floating pontoon jetty of the same footprint as the current Jetty.

The plan is to seek funds from Grants available from Licenced Clubs and the State Government. These funds can only be sought once the planning is "shovel ready", so we have invested in designs and consultants to prepare all the documentation to lodge for the Development Approval (DA).

Chris Young has patiently worked through all the documentation requirements. Recently we were advised that we would need the local indigenous community (Bega) to also sign off on the development prior to submitting for the DA. So hopefully we will have submitted the DA application early in 2020.

Current estimates to rebuild are approximately \$200,000 so to contemplate funding it ourselves would be insane. We are totally dependent on a grant for 100% of the construction costs. Our fish cleaning pontoon is an example of what can be done, and Chris and Lindon were also instrumental in getting the plus million dollar artificial reef into our waters so the precedent has been set and I am extremely optimistic that 2020 will see the commencement and hopefully completion of this visionary project.



Club Merchandise

Still looking for a stocking filler, or an investment in sun smart (really great quality) shirts, Heather Sutterby has the stock you are after. Available every Friday night or give Heather a call.

Current items include:

Sun Smart Club Shirts

Long Sleeve \$65 each

Sort Sleeve \$65 each

DPI Brag Mats \$10 each

Boat and Car Stickers

100mm diameter \$5 each

200mm diameter \$10 each

300mm diameter \$15 each

Caps \$10 each We are considering an order for floppy hats! Your feedback is welcomed.

Stubby Holders \$5 each

A piece of our History From the Catch June - July 2010

FISH CLEANING PONTOON OFFICIALLY OPENED

On Saturday 10th July, the Deputy Mayor, Michael Britten, officially opened the MBGLAC Fish Cleaning Pontoon, in Merimbula Lake. It was conducted in the Clubrooms and was attended by BVSC representatives, those who helped in the building of the pontoon, the local press and Club committee and members.

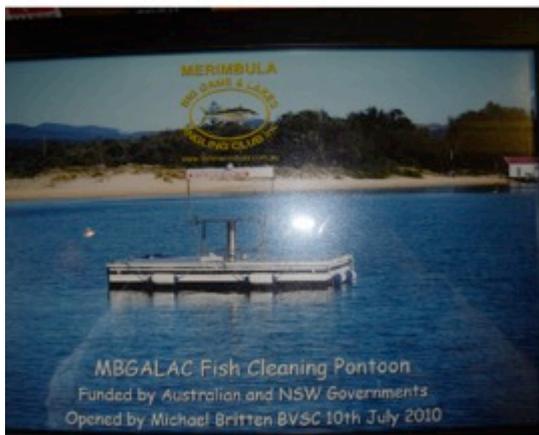
The opening was the result of over five years work, involving obtaining \$30000 in Federal and State grants and then battling with the Bega Valley Shire Council. In fact, we took it to five formal Council meetings, before final acceptance.

The then Council General Manager had accepted the concept of a Partnership with the Club, whereby we would provide the Pontoon, funded with grant money, we would do all on-going maintenance and the Council would pay all overheads. However, the then General Manager, David Jesson, left the BVSC and the Bega Valley Shire Council and staff reneged on the arrangement and did not want anything to do with the pontoon. This is despite the fact that they have a clear responsibility to provide a fishing cleaning facility in the town.

However, the Club had the \$30000 grants in our bank account, which we did not want to return to the respective governments. As such, we proceeded with the pontoon, under our own name. We have negotiated that BVSC will reimburse us for any maintenance, but we must pay overheads such as insurance and mooring fees. In due course and once the pontoon has proven itself as an integral part of the town infrastructure, we may yet convince BVSC to accept its responsibilities and pay all the overheads.

I would like to officially thank all the club members who contributed to this great result.

Tom Scott



Our Valued Sponsors

Our sponsors are our Club's backbone.

The following is a list of our sponsors and supporters for our upcoming Gala weekend.

Please support these businesses, mention you're a member of the club and thank them for their support as you support them.

Albacore Apartments

Bega Cheese

Beach Cabins Merimbula

Bidfood Pambula

Big Four Tathra Beach Holiday Park.

DBC Building Solutions

Broadwater Oysters

Broadwater Engineering P/L

Carbon Copy Printing

Camping Plus Merimbula

Cellarbrations Merimbula

Cleanaway Bega

Club Sapphire Merimbula

Coast Resort Merimbula

Cranky Cafe

David Griffiths Lawyers

Direct Appliance Services

Direct Chemist Tura Beach

Duci's Italian Restaurant

Eden Ice Supplies

Goodall's Quality Meats

Grapevine Pizza

Goodyear Autocare Merimbula

Jeff Knox Builder

Jason Harley Optometrist

Kianinny Bush Cottages

Pete Scott Automotive

Georgies Fine Jewellery

Headland Fishing Charters

Little Bottler Pambula

Magic Mountain

Mastercut Meats Tura Beach

Merimbula RSL Club

Merimbula Aquarium & Wharf Restaurant

Merimbula Gardens Motel

Merimbula Ice Creamery

Merimbula Jewellers

Merimbula Lakeview Hotel

Merimbula Marina

Merimbula Mowers & Marine
Merimbula News Weekly
Merimbula Sports Memorabil.
Merimbula Surf Shop
Merimbula Outboard Service
Merimbula Newsagency
Mitre 10 Pambula
Oaklands Cafe
Nolans Auto Parts
Pambula Fruit Market
Pambula Merimbula Golf Club
Pickles Fishing & Outdoor
Rathlin 11 Fishing Charters
Radio 2EC—Power FM
Robert Smith Complete Furn.
Richie McNeil Design
Ritzy Wine and Tapas Bar
Reel Affair Fishing Charters
Royal Willows Hotel
Sapphire Waters Motor Inn

Sapphire Marine & Automotive
Sapphire Coast Auto
Sapphire Coast Golf School
Seashells Apartments
Seeto Dodd & Dwyer Pharmacy
Shane Mayberry Builders
Splash N Dash Car & Boat Wash
Swannies Clothing Co
Tackle World Merimbula
Tathra Hotel Tathra
Top Fun Merimbula
Top Pub Commercial Hotel
Tura Beach Country Club
Wheelers Restaurant
Wilson's Signs Pambula
Woodbyne Eco Park Cabins
Woolworths Tura Beach
Woolworths Merimbula