

# CATCH



*April 2021 Newsletter*

# The Catch - April 2021

## Hi Members,

Once again it's been too long between Catch's....

Time flies when you are focusing on your favourite species, the mighty Marlin. But more about that later.

March has also been a sad month with the passing of Sandra Wood. I know I reflect the thoughts of all our members in wishing Snap and his family all the best as they console one another over this tragic event. It's great to see the strength of the club getting behind the family and supporting them in this difficult period. All our best wishes, Snap and Family.

We have a very busy few months coming up so let's share our plans. Details will follow on emails, but lock the dates in.

What is very exciting is our first club function since 2019. Details are under. I do hope that we see every member at our **2021 Seafood Night on Saturday 15 May at the Wharf Restaurant**. Won't it be great to be able to socialise as a whole club. An added bonus, brought on by the need to hold our dinner off site is that EVERYONE; Members and their Friends can enjoy the night and not have the catering obligations constraining our enjoyment.

Also a broader invitation to members to provide us with your feedback as to how you see the Club performing. The Club Meeting planned for 7.00pm the 28 April has a focus on the Annual Trophy Board process., Club Champions etc. Committee Members have reminded me that we should equally be more open and facilitate forums for broader matters that are of interest to you the member. Open invitation to submit feedback to [admin@mbglac.com.au](mailto:admin@mbglac.com.au) at anytime. Also more than happy to convene further Club Meetings if that is the wish of the members.

## COVID update when attending Clubrooms

Just a reminder that under the 2 square meter rule we can now accommodate 40 members inside and when the weather permits a further 8 on the veranda.

So reservations are not necessary for our normal Friday Nights.

On entry you are required to log in via the Services NSW app – something that is now part of life. If you don't have the facility to log on via the app then we will register you on a manual log. Please make sure that this happens so we fully comply with our COVID Safety Plan.

## Whose been fishing?

I am currently plagued with my Marlin obsession and it has been tough for all of us with the disease! But the last couple of weeks has seen a lift on that front.

The Blacka Family had a brainer right at the end of March – see under.

Easter Sunday; White Night with Nigel Hack managed a nice striped marlin for Chris Simos, which was weighed at the Club Rooms and I'm sure Nigel and Chris were extremely grateful for Alan Wilkins and Stuart Greens assistance in the weighing and then preparing the fillets, much to the delight of our locals and visitors to Spencer Park who were offered a nice bag of fillets to take home. Well done team.

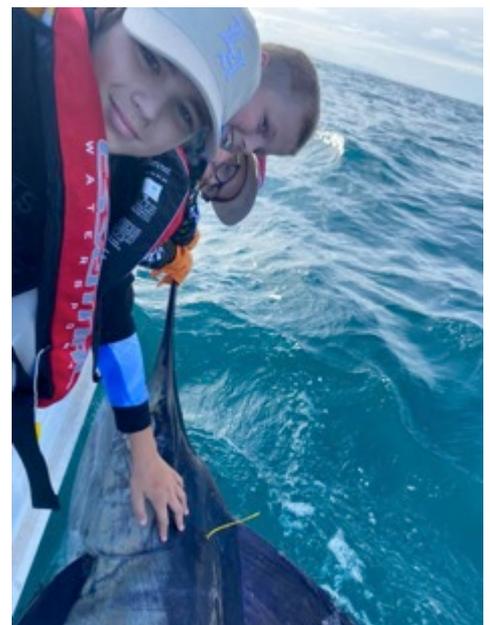
Now, some members go a little further afield for their Easter holidays and I hope that Merrily doesn't mind me sharing her magnificent Murray Cod caught out of Copeton Dam. As was reported to me, Merrily had to show her extended family that she really was an extraordinary fisher person – Merrily we already knew that, well done.



## March Marlin Tag and Release Friendly

A big congratulations go out to club member, Adam Blacka, and his 3 boys Alex (14), Caleb and Bailey (11y/o twins), for capturing and tagging 3 striped marlin on Sunday, 28th March, 2021.

Fishing from Adam's boat, BettyMay, they ventured out from Kianinny and made their way out towards the shelf, heading slightly south. The water was green, under 22 degrees and not inviting at all; they had trouble finding bait. As a result they made their way further south, looking for bait, and at the same time came inside the shelf.





Perseverance and patience eventually paid off. They found bait in about 65 fathoms, through to about 60 fathoms, virtually straight out from Tura Headland. The water was still somewhat dirty and just over 21degrees - but the bait was there.

They caught slimies and started trolling livies around the bait. Before too long all hell broke loose - a double strike, double hook-up on marlin. Now Adam's twin sons, Caleb and Bailey, took a rod each, and under Adam's guidance they both eventually managed to land their fish. Caleb's on 15kg and Bailey's on 24kg. Their first marlin too. A great effort to say the least by the boys and a great effort by Adam too.

A short time later, after tagging and releasing the boys fish, they slow trolled more livies. It

wasn't long before they hooked up again. This time Adam landed his marlin on 15kg; it too was tagged and released.

A great days fishing is an understatement. To fish with his sons and help them catch their first marlin makes it even more special.

Well done ....

Thanks to Adam and Alan Wilkins for the above summary.

You will note that Adam's success was in the last days of March. It's fair to say that March didn't provide the best weather for sustained offshore fishing. Many members snuck out in the few windows that were offered but found the marlin elusive.

Chris Young summarised further as follows:

*This club event was focused on inspiring those who have never fished for marlin, never caught one, to participate. Adam fulfilled the Club's "Club Friendly" charter twofold with his 11 year old twin sons Caleb and Bailey each catching and releasing their first ever marlin and then tagged and then released his own lovely striped marlin, Three marlin overall, what a wonderful day for Adam and his sons.*

Thanks Chris, lets see whether we can get better luck with the weather next year! A huge thanks to Streaker Marine for their support for this hopefully annual club event.



## Upcoming Events

### **28 April – Club Meeting Commencing 7pm – Annual Trophy Board discussion**

In preparation for the new fishing year June 1 2021 to 31 May 2022 it is appropriate that the Committee review the way the process works, look at the Eligible Species List and generally consider feedback from members.

The Committee invites all members to a Club Meeting, where members will be provided an opportunity to present their views on the way the Trophy Board operates, have some open discussion to canvass views that ultimately will feed back into the deliberations the Committee will undertake to formulate the Trophy Board principals for the upcoming fishing year.

For club room management purposes only, if you do want to contribute to this all important meeting could you please RSVP to me via text. I don't anticipate totalling over 40 members, but just in case, I am prepared to convene a second meeting. Getting all your views is important to the Committee.

**15 May – Seafood Dinner Night** – Bookings are now open for our Seafood Dinner Night to be held at the Wharf Restaurant. At \$50 per head thanks to Sally and Anthony we have a great night planned with room to accommodate all the expected members and their friends.

Look out for the formal email invitation. Payments via BSB are preferred  
MBGLAC  
BSB 802-124  
Account Nos 100077906

Please email Lynette Haar [lahaar@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lahaar@bigpond.net.au) with your booking requirements and confirmation of payment.

Bookings can be individual or as tables of 8, 10 or 12.

Give Lynette a ring if you want further information on 0407526417

## Our Next Fishing Events.

**22 & 23 May – Snapper Classic Competition** – Lock this date in, all information on the web.

The Snapper Classic has 15 prizes on offer which include:

Adult

Longest Snapper \$600.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$300, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$200 and 4<sup>th</sup> \$100

Junior

Longest Snapper \$100.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$80,  
3<sup>rd</sup> \$50

There are also prizes for the longest bag of 5 snapper for individuals and boats and mystery length prizes plus a Lucky Angler prize



**12 to 14 June – Merimbula Open** – Lock this date in and get onto a team. All details on the web.

The Open prize categories include heaviest Yellowfin and Bluefin Tuna, Shark and Broadbill Swordfish. There is also a tag and release category for most of the above species and Junior categories in all of the above. The total prize pool for the Open will exceed \$15,000



**26 June - Presentation Night** – Lock in the date. To be held at the Lakeview Hotel to celebrate all our members successes during the fishing year.

**2 August – Annual General Meeting** – lock in this date and come along and show support for the AGM process, and a broken record but, think about joining your committee. For many years we have run under resourced.



**9/10 of October - Grudge Match** – Eden has the conch this year and they have indicated that at this point they would like to convene in October. Details as they come to hand.

## Annual Trophy Board

Slots are filling rapidly on the board with some very credible fish against most species. But, there remain gaps, so the opportunity exists to fill them and get yourself well positioned for our annual awards.

Reminder, it's the angler's responsibility to ensure your capture report is submitted within the 14 day cut off time. This applies to all fish, bottom bouncers, game fishers, estuary and fresh water captures.

Entry is easy via the web and the appropriate photo, either brag mat length, tag and release card or game fish capture slip.

This angling year closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> May, so still plenty of time.....

## Club Sponsors

We are so blessed to have our loyal sponsors old and new helping us out.

Goes without saying that members have a reciprocal task to support our sponsors and give them a fair go as you secure your daily services.

Let's focus this month on our major sponsors for the Snapper Classic and the Open.

A huge thanks to the following organisations for their support of our Club.



An Australian Government bushfire recovery initiative

## Merchandise

We love to see our members, their families and friends proudly displaying our merchandise and apparel, supporting our Brand and showing that they are members of this great 85 year old club....So don't be shy.... Club apparel up!

We have the following merchandise in stock:

### Club Shirts.

These are the highest quality, Australian Made and Owned, SPF 50 Rated shirts available. They are the same price as the original shirts first ordered in 2010 and are still going. Made by Big Fish Gear in the NT, these shirts are just \$65 each.

**Available in LONG and SHORT Sleeves!**

**All sizes are currently in stock.**

Children's sizes are only available by order. Children's Sizes are 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12,14

Adult Sizes are: XS – Same as Children's 16, SMALL , MED, LARGE, XL, 2XL, 3XL , 4XL, 5XL



### Floppy Hats \$20ea

A recent addition to the merchandise suite is the floppy hat. Very lightweight, breathable and super sun smart. A must for all sun smart fishos!

Available in Sizes 55,57,59,61 for \$20 each.

Stocks are limited, so get in quick.

Purchased from Eagle Embroidery in Bega.



**Club Caps** Supplied by Eagle Embroidery in Bega.

In stock \$15ea



**Brag Mats \$10ea** - Purchased from DPI NSW

A must for all members who want to log a fish on the Lakeview Tally Board. The DPI Brag Mat is an economical Brag Mat that is our standard measure for all length measured species.



Available for \$10 each

### Logo Boat and Car Stickers



Help advertise our club... Proudly display one or several of these on your cars and your boat.

We offer three sizes of our logo on quality vinyl adhesive backed material proudly manufactured locally by Wilsons Signs of Pambula.

Sizes and prices are:

- 100mm diameter - Small \$5
- 200mm diameter - Medium \$10
- 300mm diameter - Large \$20

### LOGO Keyrings \$10

Locally hand crafted - right here in Merimbula, these premium quality key rings are not only functional, they make great affordable gifts and souvenirs for family and friends.



### Stubby Holders \$6 – Hot off the Press..... NEW DESIGN!!!

#### NOW IN STOCK!!

Made and Purchased from Vanda Graphics in Melbourne.

A wonderful photo encapsulating the magnificent views from our clubrooms and taken overlooking Merimbula lake, our fishing club jetty and the Merimbula bar, (courtesy of Urs Buhlman from "Bearstock") this is the perfect functional gift, souvenir or "must have" tackle box item.



We will be looking at other lines as well and if you have ideas on something you would like to see the club look into, please do not hesitate to contact us on facebook or via our website [www.mbglac.com.au](http://www.mbglac.com.au)

## In Closing

It's going to be a busy few months so let's get together and have fun.

Let's fish and share the joy

Stay safe and tight lines.

Peter Haar  
President  
Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club