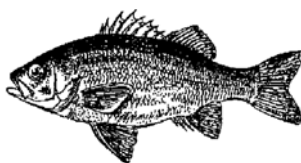




Australian Bass, MACQUARIA NOVEMACULEATA



THE BRONZE BATTLER

NEXT MEETING
WEDNESDAY
5th October
GUEST SPEAKER
David Sanagor

David will give us a run down on his recent OS trips.

Northmead Bowling, Recreation and Sporting Club
Ltd.
166 Windsor Rd Northmead.
7.30 pm start till 11pm.

PATRON:	Dr Wayne Erskine, PhD
President	Dave Claydon..... 9829-1503 (H)
Vice President	Domenic Squadrito..9799-1796(H)
Past President	Alan Izzard..... 9653- 2309 (H)
Secretary	Domenic Squadrito..9799-1796(H)
Treasurer/Membership	
Secretary	Garnet Noble.....9476-3881(H)
Points score &	
Basscatch Officer	Geoff Shadbolt.....9636-4340(H)
Publicity Officer	Alan Izzard.....9653-2309(H)
Editor:	Alan Izzard.....9653 2309(H)
<u>Project Officers:</u>	
Parramatta River	Alan Fowkes.....9626-9938(H)
Hacking River	Warren Hackshall....9525 0090(H)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

RULE CHANGES SUBMISSION

Hello everyone, the deadline to send your response to proposed fishing regulations has been put back three weeks to October 21st so it gives you a bit more time. It will be years before we have a chance to have a say again. Please make an effort and send your submission in. If you need a copy of the submission proposed by Bass Sydney please contact me. For those without email I can post to you, just let me know.

OCT. BASS CATCH WEEKEND

To begin I would like to thank Al Izzard for the huge effort he has put into organizing this event. We have extended the invitation to other clubs and also arranged raffles and free BBQ. These weekends are a great time to fish and meet other club members, details are in the Battler.

NEW 400 CLUB MEMBER

I would like to congratulate the newest member Warren Hackshall, not only did Warren catch and release a 400 plus fish but to prove it just wasn't a "by" catch he later landed another 400 plus fish which was a great effort. These Bass were caught during the Macleay Bass Catch. This event was very well organized and the Bass Sydney members who attended had a great time. We are looking forward to next years event.

See you, Dave Claydon.

Guest Speaker August GM

Dr David Booth from UTS and his lovely wife Gigi came along on the 3rd of August and gave us an update of his research on the stocking of Berowra Creek. From David's presentation it would appear that most of the fingerlings have either dispersed or have died. Because of the restrictions of time and funding, none, his research is fairly limited and he has asked for our help to see if any of his original cohort still exist. We will endeavour to catch a couple of 200-250mm fish for him so he can remove their otolith bones, to check if they are marked with dye.

Unfortunately this is the only way of knowing if they are wild or stocked fish. David explained how this technology works and it was a fascinating presentation. He also explained his method of researching Berowra Creek, he would don a wet suit, and with his wife on the bank with a GPS and note pad, he would then enter the water and swim (?) the creek where the fish were released, and as he spotted them he would call out the quantity and size and Gigi would record that information. On his last foray he was not able to spot any fish in the size range he was looking for at the release sites.

It would be fair to say that David was impressed with us as well, as he has passed on our details to others. He and Gigi also spent some time with members after the meeting answering and asking questions. It should be pointed out that Gigi is a Marine Biologist, or something in that line, and is very knowledgeable regarding all things fishy.

Everyone attending the meeting wished David and Gigi well with the soon to be arriving baby and thanked them very much for coming out into the cold winter night to speak to us.

Alan Izzard.

Macleay Bass Catch 2005

Bass Sydney had 6 members booked in to fish this event this year. Unfortunately Milton Lazarus had to pull out at the last minute because of a bad case of the flu. The rest of us decided to take Friday off work and head off early. Warren Hackshall picked up Dave Claydon at about 9.30am and Geoff Shadbolt, Garnet Noble and myself left Hornsby at about 7.30am. As we had plenty of time, the three of us decided to stop and have a little session on the way. There is a small river just off the highway at Nabiac the Wallanbah that I had fished only once before. We arrived about 11.00 am and decided to give it a go for an hour. Garnet was the only scorer with 1 Bass of 390mm, not a bad start to the day. Geoff and I never even looked like getting anything. We moved off again at 12.30 and soon arrived in Kempsey, booked into the motel and then decided to check out the entry and exit points of the river. As we still had plenty of time up our sleeves we decided to do a little prospecting upstream of Temagog bridge. The river was fairly well up and moving quite fast, so paddling upstream was not so easy. I paddled for about 15mins and then decided to drift back and fish, trouble with that was with the speed of the drift, we were only able to make 1 cast per likely spot. I managed to pull 2 nice fish, 1 at 270mm and the other 330+mm. Geoff had followed me up and was drifting about 30 meters behind me. Garnet also followed us up but was at least 100 meters behind . Garnet

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managed another 4 fish, all over 300mm, it was his day. Geoff, sad to say, missed out altogether. We pulled the kayaks out of the water at about 5 O'clock and headed back to the motel, some of us very pleased with the days events.

The boy's from Bass Kempsey had organised a bar-b-q dinner and had their briefing straight after followed by an auction and a lucky door prize draw. The briefing was comprehensive to say the least and as the reach of the river we intended to fish was new for their bass catch and the fact that we had not fished there before they supplied us with topo maps and one of their club members Peter ? sat with us afterwards and gave us a very good run down on what we could expect. Another win in the lucky door give away with club president Dave Claydon winning that, a carton of VB which was soon claimed as a Bass Sydney Club prize and we all helped in the demise of the contents. Dave Harris, President of Bass Kempsey gave a small talk at the end of the briefing and warned us not to leave any thing of value in our vehicles. That night we had 3 fishermen and 3 kayaks in our room, a little crowded.

Saturday morning, up bright and early at 4.45am for breakfast and set of at about 5.30 for the days outing. We dropped 1 vehicle off at Turner's Flat and proceeded on to Temagog Bridge, our entry point. Managed to get onto the water at about 6.30 and moved pretty swiftly down stream. The first couple of pools were pretty unproductive as we were warned they probably would be. I think Warren (Guru) picked up 1 early fish but that was all. Dave managed to lose 2 good fish in succession as Garnet, Geoff and I watched without so much as a touch, it was getting a little worrying. Geoff then caught 2 in pretty quick time, it was time to make a lure change, on with the Ausspin black and purple spinnerbait and I also landed 2 in pretty quick time. No sooner had I landed my second than Garnet and Dave also managed to pull fish, this pool was magic, unfortunately as we were not sure just how long we could spend there we had to move on, 10 fish from the 1 pool and not 1 under 300mm, it was hard to go. We all managed more fish but the Guru did best, not with quantity but he caught 2 over 400, and as he put it " I was'nt even trying", claimed that he was even using his left hand, I don't want to know what he was doing with the other. At the end of the day we had caught 20 bass the smallest 310mm and the largest 420mm, all in all a good days fishing.



Day's end



Warren with his 420mm.

Note the halo, we bow to the guru

We had entered as teams for the event and as Milton had pulled out we decided that Garnet, Geoff and I would fish as one team and Warren and Dave as the other. Dave had entered his team as the Bass Boys but during the Sat. night entertainment that name was altered to the "Bazzee Boyz" something to do with the Guru's right hand I believe and some kind of initiation ceremony that had to be performed, check with Dave to find out more.

We enjoyed a 3-course meal for dinner, which was followed by a monster raffle in which I was lucky enough to win a brand new Fly rod. Garnet should have picked up

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the rod but he was so busy giving Dave and Warren a hard time he missed his number being called. We had a couple of fellows from Taree on our table for dinner, Martin and John, and they were also great value, helping us to have a great night. As we had a long trip home and the fact that some of us could not have the Monday off work we decided not to fish on the Sunday but to head for home soon after breakfast. A hard decision but probably a good one as I was getting very sleepy on the drive home and we had to make a couple of driver reviver stops on the way. If Bass Sydney gets an invite to next year's event, I for one will definitely be going and I will make sure that I take the Monday off as well. As I mentioned earlier the lads from Kempsey were most hospitable and it was probably one of the most enjoyable trips that I have been on. Could have something to do with the fact that we stayed in a motel instead of a tent but mostly because of the camaraderie of all present.

Result of the weekend were, Total No of Bass caught: 630, Largest Bass 530mm by Peter Simpson of Armidale, Champion Angler: Max Graham of West Kunderang, Champion Female angler: Julie Farawell of Kempsey, Champion Team: Dave and Julie Farawell Bass Kempsey.

All in all an exceptional weekend with our contingent catching 27 fish over the whole weekend and only one of those under 300mm. Garnet with 8, Alan 7, Geoff 6 and Dave and Warren 3 each.

Alan Izzard.

CFA AGM

This year the AGM and GM were held at the Nepean Rowing Club at Penrith, and from comments received the venue was hailed a success. Your editor was again elected as a Jnr. Vice President, and I would like to claim that is because I am younger than the rest, however truth should prevail. It was good to see several Bass Sydney members turn up, even if only for a little while, and our newest member Jim Taylor going the full nine yards and hanging in till the completion of the GM. There were also delegates from Bass Kempsey and Southern Bass, which along with the lads from South West just about evened up the numbers of native fishing clubs with the trout boys. The good thing about CFA is there is no animosity between the native and trout anglers; they are all trying to work together to improve freshwater fishing. At the meeting the most important topic was the Freshwater Fishing Revue, and Cameron Westerway from DPIF, regarding this, addressed us. He reiterated that ALL comments would add weight and not to be backward in coming forward. If you agree or disagree with anything in the revue let them know, this may be the only chance you get to make some changes.

Another important happening was Peter Morison from Parramatta Council receiving an award for "Individual of the year" for his work on getting the 4 fish ways up on the Parramatta River. You may recall that Bass Sydney nominated Peter for the award and we were all extremely pleased when we found out that the nomination was successful.

At the conclusion of the meeting some delegates had decided to try for a Bass, but as the weather was pretty ordinary most opted out. Only one trepid angler decided to have a go and Radge, from Sydney Flyrodders who you will meet if you come along to the Bar-B-Q to be held at the Bass Catch,

Caught a 390mm just below the weir on a black and purple surface fly. Black and purple, the same colours I caught 38 Bass with at last years Bass catch, don't say I did not tell you.

I attended dinner with 9 other delegates and a couple of guests at the club that night, I don't mind telling you that the social events are great and I am making alliances with people from other clubs from all over the state. It's a great feeling when you are leaving something like

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this and you are asked by another delegate to come along to their patch where you will be guided and looked after.

That Murray Cod is getting closer, I can feel it.



Rodney Tonkin (Pres CFA) congratulates Peter Morison on his award.

Alan Izzard,
Editor, Pub Officer, Past President (BS), Jnr Vice President (CFA)

From David Sanegor

I have flown south to Florida. i'm staying with a friend of my dads down there. Im trying to buy a cheap car so I can drive to everglades. Have been camping in Canada since June 12. Car hire cost a lot but lived by lakes and rivers most of the time so expenses were low. Caught big lake trout to 15lb and lost bigger jigging in big lakes of bc. Not easy thing to gaff a trout the best part of a meter in length when ur in a float tube! caught heaps of pike to 3lb on jerk shads and fly in a swamp in north bc. Rainbow trout everywhere but they are small 1.5lb and less, big fish too. 20lb a re caught by guys who troll deep, 100ft plus down. I am not tubing in Florida due to gators and water snakes. Will have to rent a canoe or something. Weather is like the north territory, quite the opposite to north bc, Canada. ps spent 5 hours in bass pro.had to put stuff back.They have a huge fish tank with 15lb largemouth redfish and snook in 15% seawater. they were lure fishing demos and then they fed the fish live shiners a kind of sardine). they lasted less than 3 sec in that tank full of hungry lunkers ps for your interest sluggos 6" are 2.70 \$us a packet so could u blame me for buying so much stuff?. i was in shock when i was in the place, it's simply enormous and a must see if u go to Orlando. will write again when I can

cheers
David

Received from Craig Ingram NFA Pres.

From AAP NewsCentre
Author: JASON DOWLING, STATE POLITICS

October 2005

Publisher: Fairfax

Publication: Sunday Age, Page 3 (Sun 10 Jul 2005)

Campaign to out trout for its bass instincts

ALIEN invaders, annihilation of a species, no way to stop them . . . no, this is not a new Steven Spielberg blockbuster. In the clear mountain streams of Victoria's high country, another war of the worlds or, more accurately, a war of the waters, is being fought and, according to one state MP, the trout are winning. Craig Ingram, the independent member for Gippsland East and head of Native Fish Australia, may not be Tom Cruise, but he is playing a lead role in the fight to protect rare native fish such as the Australian bass and the barred galaxias from extinction. Trout are a major predator of native Australian fish and also compete for food and space, Mr Ingram said. The Department of Primary Industries releases about 350,000 trout and salmon into Victorian waters each year, mostly into lakes and dams, but also into some rivers and streams. Mr Ingram said bass had not bred in the Snowy River for 16 years and were threatened by the introduction and restocking of trout into an adjoining waterway. Native Fish Australia released bass into the Suggan Buggan River, which feeds into the Snowy River, in 2000, he said. Four years later the Department of Primary Industries released more than 3000 brown trout into the same river. Mr Ingram said bass were not the only native fish in danger from trout. The barred galaxias, which lives exclusively in the headwaters of the Goulburn River system in Victoria's central highlands, is under imminent threat from introduced trout. Last year, the department approved the release of more than 50,000 brown trout into the Goulbourn River. Mr Ingram said he would like a reduction in trout stocking and last week wrote to Victoria's Environment Minister, John Thwaites, requesting information on "what actions the Government will undertake to reduce the risk of introduced fish like salmonoids (trout and salmon) to our native fish, frogs and other species across the state". But the alien invaders have some powerful friends in Victoria. The chairman of the Australian Trout Foundation, Mick Hall, said that every year more than 100,000 Victorians fished for trout, investing about \$170 million in Victoria's economy doing so. He said one in four Victorians fished and more trout were caught in Victoria every year than any other state in Australia.

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Mr Hall said most streams had not been stocked with trout for 20 years, apart from a few that had been affected by bushfire, and accused Mr Ingram of being "anti-trout". According to Mr Hall, some people are making a living out of trying to save Australia's native fish. "It is grant-induced propaganda," he said. "I am not against native fish in any way. I am against bias and when people say trout are causing the demise of native fish - it is just not the case, it is habitat degradation that is the problem," Mr Hall said. If there were native fish populations under threat, he would help to remove the trout, he said. The manager of recreational fisheries with the Department of Primary Industries, Greg Hayes, said fish stocking had long been practised to enhance recreational fishing in Victoria. But he warned there was "increasing recognition that the introduction of any fish species, particularly outside its natural range, may pose an environmental risk". Controls were in place to maximise opportunities for anglers while reducing adverse environmental impacts.

FISH IN THE SNOWY

. Australian bass. Blackfish. Long and short-finned eel.. Galaxias. Gudgeon.
. Grayling. Tupong. Smelt. Rainbow trout. Brown trout.

FISH TROUT LIKE TO EAT

Juvenile bass. Galaxias. Gudgeon. Grayling. Tupong. Smelt.

Source: Craig Ingram, President Native Fish Australia

Bass Sydney Bass Catch 15/16th October 2005

We have arranged a camping area at Wilberforce, 138 Grono Farm Rd, for this years Bass Catch. We have anglers coming from Sydney & Canberra Fly Rodders & Hunter Native Fish. We will put on a Bar-B-Q and raffle on the Saturday night. Facilities are non-existent except for power and there will be a pit toilet. Come along and meet with anglers from other clubs and walks of life. Camping is optional but I know that some of our guests will be staying. There is a boat ramp near by and for the canoeists and kayakers it is not that big a drive to get upstream. Please let me know ASAP if you are going to attend the barbie so we can organise catering. **BYO liquid refreshments.** For those who intend to fish the higher reaches and cannot make the Barbie etc, don't forget to collect your Bass catch form from Geoff Shadbolt at the next meeting.

Tall Tales but True?

Gordon Murphy, now resident of Bribie Island, tells me that while fishing under the access bridge to the island recently, he put a livie on and dropped the line overboard and then put the rod down to do something else. A couple of minutes later there was a bit of a noise and Gordy looked up to see the whole thing disappear overboard. Not to be too disheartened he baited up another rod and pretty soon he was into a good fight. 10 minutes later he was broken off, never did see what it was. Keep the stories coming Gordy, we believe you.

Future events:

November

5th Woronora River. Meet at "The Needles" more info later.

12th & 13th Williams River Bass Catch, Clarence Town, hosted by Hunter Native Fish. Moved forward 1 week due to pro fishing tournament.

19th & 20th Lake Yarunga Bass Catch, Tallowa dam hosted by Southern Bass.

December

Christmas Dinner – **THURSDAY** 8TH December, note change of day.
Deep Creek trip TBA.