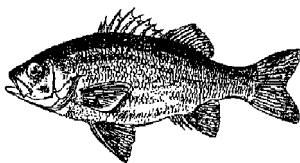


October 2006.



Australian Bass, *MACQUARIA NOVEMACULEATA*



THE BRONZE BATTLER

NEXT MEETING
WEDNESDAY
4th October
GUEST SPEAKER

No speaker this month, suggested tackle swap etc so bring along anything you want to get rid of (no wives please).

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

PATRON:	Dr Wayne Erskine, PhD
President	Domenic Squadrito..9799-1796(H)
Vice President	Dave Sanegor.....0413 136 678
Past President	Dave Claydon..... 9829-1503 (H)
Secretary	Jim Taylor..... 9631 7485 (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)
Event Co-Ordinator	Chris Ghosn.....9636 6896 (H)
<u>Project Officers:</u>	
Parramatta River	Alan Fowkes.....9626-9938(H)
Hacking River	Warren Hackshall....9525 0090(H)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hi all,

The recent Bass Kempsey Invitational was a great event with 11 Bass Sydney members in attendance. The first day of the event started well with very little wind and clear water, however the wind picked up by mid morning and turned horrendous in the afternoon. This made for some uncomfortable fishing in the very flat and open sections of the river, with the "kayak" brigade doing it especially tough. On Saturday night the heavens opened up and the Wind and rain from further south seems to have pushed up the coast to Kempsey and didn't stop right through Sunday. Most of the Bass Sydney team decided to stay in a warm bed rather than face strong winds and pouring rain and leave town before Midday for the 5 hour drive home.

The night time entertainment at dinner never ended with new, old and past "Gurus" challenging for the title. The beers flowed almost as much as some stores being told in the venue and then it all began with challenges, commentary and talking down on who would catch fish, how many and how big. Some members even suggesting that their Bass Catch form would not be enough and that others wouldn't need theirs. It was great fun listening to and even responding to such challenges. I'm sure everyone enjoyed themselves and no one was offended. A great event despite the poor weather conditions experienced by competitors.

With the first of many hot days signalling the start of increased water temperature the fishing should start to really heat up so get out there amongst them. Daylight saving should kick in soon so there is no excuse, whether you fish from a kayak, boat or bank, early morning or after work get out and have a fish.

See you all at the next General Meeting.

Domenic
President
Bass Sydney

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Bass Kempsey Bass catch

Having only heard the stories from the last Kempsey trip I have got to say that it well and truly lived up to its reputation. 11 bass Sydney members made the trip this year, which will soon become a pilgrimage in the upcoming years if we are invited back.

After a quick fish on the Friday we ascended on the golf club for dinner and the briefing. A good time was had by all, however I couldn't help but feel slightly embarrassed as several Bass Sydney members disgraced themselves by openly flirting with a young female bass angler. No wonder there isn't too many around. Erring on the more civilized side I enjoyed a fine drop of red in the infamous room "26" with my hero Warren (ex guru) Hackshall, Dave Claydon, Barry Cole and Alan Izzard. We discussed the finer points off Modern art & recited stanzas of Banjo Patterson before calling it a night. Whilst Al, Dave and myself were sleeping Wazza and Bazza partied on next door with the young lass & a case of rum. The police were finally called in to stop the party some time in the morning.

An early start Saturday, we were treated to the biggest breakfast I have ever had before heading off. The fishing, although tough, was good enough to keep us going but the clean environment and serenity of the place was engrossing.

The paddle back was arduous to say the least with the wind blowing a gale and we were all relieved to make it back. The club on the Saturday night was well set up as we were treated to a 3 course sit down dinner and a raffle to the value of \$13000. Bass Sydney members did very well in particular Alan Izzard who managed to make several trips to the prize table.

As we settled down to enjoy our dessert the heavens opened up and we knew that fishing the next day was going to be a big ask.

Awaking at 5am Sunday morning to the sound of torrential rain I think it was unanimous across the fleet to sleep in however despite the rain 2 boats went out and still managed to pull fish (which goes to show you can catch em in any conditions as long as your lures in the water).

Overall the showing of Bass Sydney members was excellent and the courtesy and respect shown to the club from all concerned was really good to see. Everyone involved in the event were really good people. There were a total of 100 anglers involved in the comp this year, which was a record. Big thanks to bass Kempsey and Shimano who were this year's major sponsor.

Hopefully we will be back next year.

Chris (would be Guru) Ghosn.



The facts:

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From Allan Wilcox, Bass Kempsey

BASS KEMPSEY RESULTS
9/10 SEPTEMBER

99 competitors - 9 juniors 3 females
13 clubs respresented.
46 teams.

a total of 639 bass caught.

largest bass 469mm

about 10 caught over 400

7 river reaches used a total of about 50 kms of rivers

The weather was windy and cold on the Saturday and difficult to fish and Sunday produced very heavy rain with only 13 anglers venturing out.

The club raised approximately \$3500 which we hope to pour back into the system in one way or another.

Next years event will be 7/8/9th September.



Bass Sydney receives recognition

The Bass Sydney Fishing Club was honored to receive the “Club of the Year” award at this years CFA AGM. Club President was at hand to receive the award from CFA president Rodney Tonkin. The award is presented each year to the club that is deemed to have done the most for freshwater fishing in NSW. Thanks must go to each member, past and present, that has turned up and done the work to improve the Bass fishery. More info can be found in Freshwater Fisher, CFA’s newsletter or on their website.

DNA testing.

Bass Sydney member have been asked to participate in a fin clipping exercise to collect DNA data from several Bass fisheries. We will be collecting clippings from the Hawkesbury, Williams, Patterson and Karuah fish in the next couple of months. More info at the next meeting.

BASS SYDNEY MEMBER PROFILE.

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Alan (Bigal) Izzard:

1. How did you get your nickname.....,Cause I'm little
2. Best day's fishing.....NT, 30 Barra in 90 min
3. Most memorable catch.....8Lb Jack
4. Worst day's fishing.....Sitting all day in a boat in the sun and not getting a single bight
5. Most embarrassing fishing moment.....Coming out of my kayak with Grumpy looking on
6. First fish.....Bream
7. When did you catch your first Bass.....About 1999 with Grumpy Murphy
8. Favourite lure.....Any that work, softies now
9. Favourite style of fishing.....Cast and retrieve
10. Favourite fishing book or DVD.....Bethune on Bass
11. Favourite fishing location.....Hunter valley
12. What do you do for a living.....Run a printing business
13. Are you married, if so Wife and Kids names...Keri, Brooke and Glenn
14. If not, are you thinking about or are you gay...See above- wouda been cheaper
15. What kind of watercraft do you use.....Bass kayak
16. Where do you live.....Galston
17. Where would you like to live, if elsewhere.....Hunter Valley, so many rivers
18. Where is your dream fishing location.....NT
19. Why.....So remote, such bloody big fish
20. Favourite other sport.....Are there other sports?
21. What do you fish for during winter.....Brownie points
22. Why did you join Bass Sydney.....To learn about Bass and Bass fishing

Tell us why you enjoy fishing for Bass:

The solitude when I'm floating peacefully down some river, with the birds and other wildlife keeping me company. The camaraderie of the post days fishing around a campfire, a few red wines and heaps of BS all make the effort worthwhile. The friends that I have made and other people that I have met through this wonderful sport, I thank you all.



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Parramatta River Update

Still waiting for good news I'm afraid. The DA for the Charles St and Kiosk Weirs prompted a request for a site visit from an interested party so approval wasn't possible this month. We're now hoping for DA approval on the 9th October so keep your fingers crossed!

Also got the news this week that Peter Morison will be leaving Council at the end of November to take up a PHD opportunity in Melbourne. Peter has been the driving force behind this project and will be sorely missed. However, he assures me that Council is still committed to the project and has provided me with a new contact who will keep us up to date on progress.

On a brighter note, Parramatta Council is planning a big "water event" for the 4th November. The key role for organising this has been handed to 2KY and they are being supported by Clean Up Australia. One of the events on the day is a Carp Fish-out so some of you might be interested in participating. I'll also be investigating whether Bass Sydney can contribute as a group in some way e.g. participating in an on-water clean up perhaps. Let me know if you're interested.

Alan Fowkes

Early season bass

Walking across the crunchy icy grass at Clarence town to say good-bye to fellow club members back in May was how the bass season concluded. I remember thinking how long the winter was going to `be and boy wasn't it, Alas with spring well and truly here its time to blow the dust of your gear and start fishing.

September was heralded with some sparkling weather and I wasn't waiting for the reports to start filtering in as I headed up to the Penrith area for a paddle and a bit of a throw. A beautiful day in the mid 20s was good enough and not expecting to catch a fish I bumped into a couple of anglers who had been fishing for a couple of weeks and had already been producing results including a "500"! Funny how I never heard of this on any forum. After a few hours it finally happened, I managed to hook up on the Betts spinner with a slider tale imported from the U. S., big thanks to Garnet and Alan for their troubles. Then I managed another in quick time, paddling back to the car I pulled another 2 fish.

What to make of it?

As anglers we generally over analysis things, for example weather, water temp, barometer or whether the fish are still down stream. In this instance I believe if conditions look good just keep throwing perhaps early season fishing is hit & miss but one things for shore you wont catch fish unless your lures in the water. Bass Sydney members who fished the MacCleay this

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year experienced the fickle nature of the fish yet everyone managed to get a fish this is testament to this theory. Just keep on throwing and wait till it warm-up a little more and we can start having fun on the surface.

Till next time

CG

Upcoming events:

October:

Our Bass catch is on 21/22nd of October. We have arranged the use of the property at Wilberforce again where we will hold a bar-b-q and raffle on Saturday night. If you do not remember the directions or were not there last year give me a call or an email and I will send you a map. Just stay out of the dam.

November:

Williams River Bass catch, 18/19th. Clarence Town camping area as per usual. Will try and fish the Patterson some time this weekend as well. Maybe a trip to the Karuah this month?

December:

Christmas Dinner is set for the 6th but that may change as we are looking at changing venues.

Woronora River is set for the 2nd or 3rd. Access is a bit difficult so we will need 4 wheel drives for this one, any volunteers? I just managed to get out last year so will not be driving down there again.