



Southern Brisbane Sportfishing Club Inc.

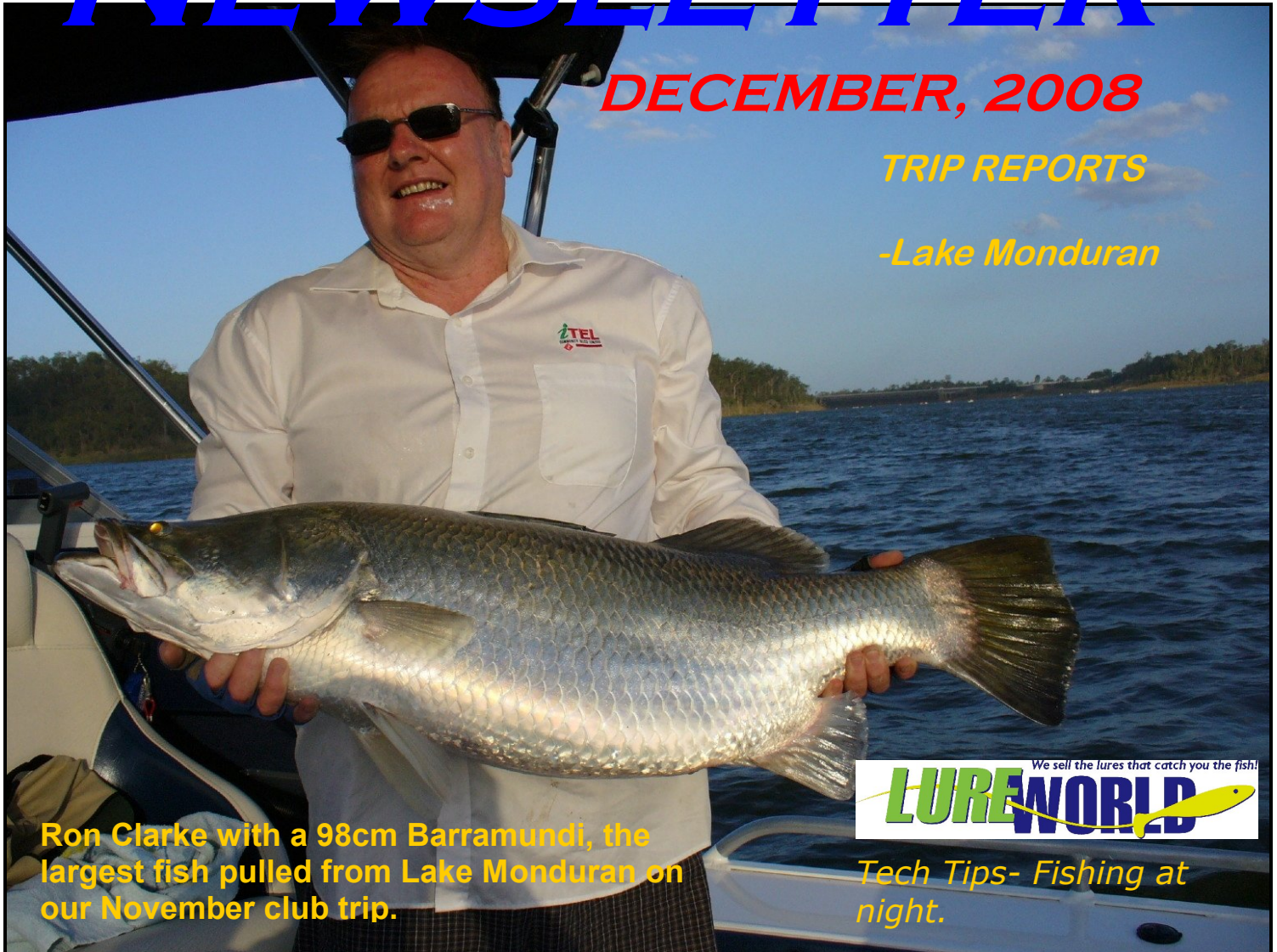
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NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2008

TRIP REPORTS

-Lake Monduran



Ron Clarke with a 98cm Barramundi, the largest fish pulled from Lake Monduran on our November club trip.



Tech Tips- Fishing at night.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY the 1ST of December 2008 at 7:30pm (even if it's a public holiday) at the Beenleigh Bowls Club, 11 Hanover Street, Beenleigh. See access map further on in this Newsletter.

Acknowledgement: This Newsletter was kindly copied by Brett Raguse, member for Forde, at no charge to the club. Special thanks to Mr Raguse for his kind assistance

GUEST SPEAKERS- Last year Ray Bricknell went on a fishing trip to the Kimberley. This month we will see all the action from his adventure to the Northwest coast. Ray has condensed his video for an interesting show and tell.

DECEMBER TRIPS- Dave Weston has been kind enough to host the club Christmas Party again this year. The Christmas party will be held on the 6th of December. More details at the next club meeting.

Our only December club trip will be the annual Jabiru Island Trip on the 14th. This is a highly productive area and a trip well worth attending. Jeff Maddalena is trip captain 0401 490 151, a trip sheet will be available at the next meeting.

LAKE MONDURAN TRIP- 8th / 15th NOVEMBER

Is Monduran stuffed?

By Ray Bricknell / Ross Williamson

Don't get me wrong. There are plenty of big Barra in Lake Monduran these days – huge, in fact. But as a club trip in November, I think Lake Monduran has had its day. Let me take you back a few years.

Our club used to travel to Lake Awoonga, near Gladstone, for our annual Barra trip in November. Then, in 2005, we discovered Lake Monduran (Fred Haigh Dam). An hour closer to Brisbane, it is in many ways an easier dam to fish than Awoonga.

The travel distances to the “prime” fishing spots are less, and there is less likelihood of having to risk your life crossing a broad expanse of very rough water coming home at night if the wind blows up.

In 2005 Monduran was a well-kept secret. The cabins and holiday houses were very affordable, and the caravan park was almost empty – even in November. Ditto, no crowding at the boat ramp. Not any more!

I couldn't believe my eyes, as I drove in this year. The caravan park was choc-a-block – literally. I actually heard the delightful Manageress, Kelly, tell someone they had been allocated the very last powered site in the park. And the holiday houses have about trebled in price since we first came here.

And you should see the boat ramps. There are three of them, and the biggest will accommodate about five or six boats being launched or recovered at once. Day and night

whilst we were there, people had to park their boat trailers halfway up the (very steep) hill – even though the parking at the “main” launching site (useable only when the water level is up) has been expanded.

So what has happened to cause this sudden burst of popularity? **Fishing Journos!**

Pick up any fishing magazine these days, and there's Monduran. And it has been featured in TV fishing shows as well.

And the fishing Journos build up peoples' expectations unrealistically. “Metre plus Barra? Too easy at Monduran.”

But the truth is, fishing is fishing. To catch fish you have to be in the right place, at the right time, with the right bait or lures. Get just one of these wrong – no fish.

This year we lucked right out.

There is a real chance the fish in Lake Monduran have become boat shy and lure shy. Presumably no fishery can stand this much fishing pressure day after day, week after week, without it having some impact on the fishing. There are competition weekends there also around this time of year.

In fairness, Dave Weston and John McAllan each caught a Barra around 55cm within an hour or so of their arrival on Friday morning, but after that – nothing. Three days later they were so disgusted they left a day earlier than planned and went home.

There was a huge downpour on the Saturday night – the heaviest rain I've experienced in years. Was that what put the fish off their tucker? Or was it the southerly buster? Who knows?

Whatever it was, it sure as hell sent the Barra into hiding. Not only could none of us catch a fish to save our lives – we weren't seeing any evidence whatsoever of Barra anywhere in the dam. At 35% full, there is plenty of water between the fish, but there was just no action at all. No flashes; no swirls; nothing other than a few Bony Bream breaking the surface occasionally.

Between us, we fished every nook and cranny from the backwater behind the boat ramp – actually a productive area i

the furthest extremities, where the fresh was trickling in from the downpour.

Fishing an average of about ten hours a day, with about ten of us on the water at any one time, the only fish we caught were occasional “flukes”.

Neither did any of the other fifty plus fishers on the dam each day catch many. Three or four Barra skeletons each night was all we saw in the bin near the cleaning table – nothing, considering the number of fishers on the water every day. Fifty fishers is probably an underestimate.

Craig Milne did pick up a 92cm Barra on Saturday night – but there is a story to that fish. Craig was fishing with Paul Kirkland (Kiwi Paul), and they had put in a long hard day, as was the norm for this trip. They finished the day not far from the boat ramp, and Paul was trolling on the way back.



Craig was tired, and couldn't really be bothered putting a lure in the water. Paul nagged him into it. Half-heartedly, Craig started trolling, and not far from the boat ramp he got hit. Pure skill? Craig matched lure depth with the thermocline and the baitfish on the sounder and come up trumps.

Alan Cushway and Ron Clarke arrived the next day – Sunday. They launched their boat about 3pm, and at 5:30pm Ron landed a 98cm Barra. What perseverance! Trolling, of course – pure skill! AND THAT WAS THE ONLY FISH CAUGHT THAT DAY.

By the way, to make those with expensive gear feel good, Ron was using a \$20 rod and a \$5 lure from Big W.

Then on Monday – NOTHING!

Tuesday was another long, hard day. Ray Bricknell, like everyone else, fished his heart out all day in some of the most promising “Barra bays” you are ever likely to see – without reward. (Tom Wallbank reckoned he could even SMELL Barramundi in some of those bays.)

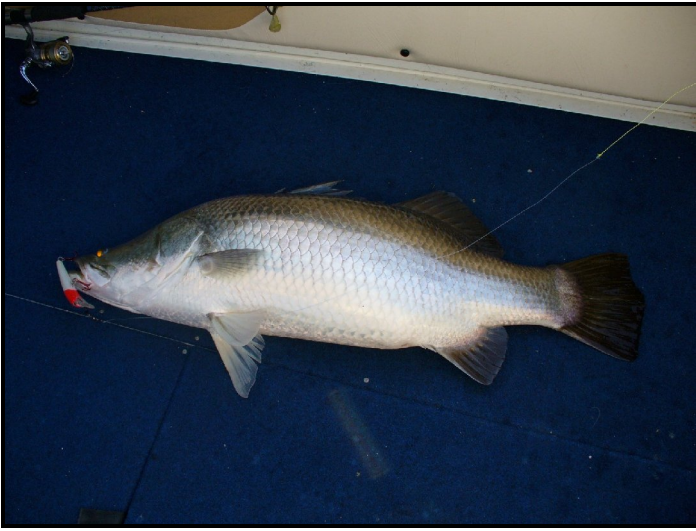
Not a keen troller, Ray decided to troll his way back to the boat ramp – which was quite a long way away. He set off at 6pm.

At 6:15pm, barely out of Barra Bay, one of Ray's rods went off. Not much of a fight – he thought it was probably a Catfish. Turned out it was a 48cm Bass. Great skill went into catching it – like hell! It was just another fluke.

The poor bloody fish must have just grabbed the lure as it flashed past its nose in the fading light, and on doing so instantly went from stationary to 2.7 Knots, and got itself dragged along for about ten or twenty metres. The shock of the sudden acceleration probably stunned the Bass – it sure as hell didn't put up much of a fight. That fish was just out of luck.

So, from Friday morning to Tuesday night, with an average of ten fishers fishing ten hours a day for effectively four days, we had two small Barra, two decent Barra and one Bass – all caught by the “lure past the nose” (trolling) method. Hardly “Sport Fishing”.

Fisher	Length	Species	Method	Day	Time	Lure Type
Dave Weston / John McAllan	55cm	Barra	Casting	Sat	9:30	Barra Classic
Dave Weston / John McAllan	50cm?	Barra	Casting	Sat	10:00	Barra Classic
Craig Milne	92cm	Barra	Trolling	Sun	18:30	Storm 120cm
Ron Clarke	98cm	Barra	Trolling	Mon	17:30	Red/White Producer
Ray Bricknell	48cm	Bass	Trolling	Tue	18:15	Large Dive



Ron Clarke's Big Barra

That's about 400 man-hours for five fish. This was an even worse catch rate than earlier trips to Monduran, where we logged one Barra for each 20 man hours of trolling, and one for each 10 man hours of lure casting.

The big difference this time was that lure casting had contributed NOTHING to the catch.

Ray left for home after another short and still unproductive session Wednesday morning. Your scribe will be interested to read the end result. The total trip will have involved about 90 man-days of fishing – that's about 900 man-hours. Even at 1 per 20 there would need to have been 45 fish caught in the week to match the average.



Ray Bricknell with his "fluke" 48cm Monduran Bass.

The Trips Committee may need to consider possibly re-scheduling the Monduran trip to, say, March, and finding somewhere less crowded for the November Trip.

Many people left a day early as the fish were just not firing up. You could see them on the sounder if you were trolling the basin and the channels but they just did not attack the lures.

Many others were also fishing this "perfect" time and also having no success. Most people put in long days and spread their time between casting and trolling but had few touches or break-offs.

Word was that the dam was about a month behind this year so was acting like October in usual years but it was still touch and go. When people like Lloyd and Tom do not get a touch from days of casting you know it is tough.

Otherwise the fellowship and the companionship were all that we expect from this classic club trip. Sharing knowledge of what is working and where the fish are firing is all you expect. Ross Williamson picks up the story from here....

The other side was the very large number of boats attacking this dam. My best guess is that over 50 boats at this peak during the week and even with the rain and low water temperatures the number never dropped below 30 on any given day during the week. Parking at the "new" boat ramp below the cabins was at a premium.

I know on the Saturday when my brother, Ray Watson and myself were leaving, the camping area was packed and many dozens of boats were heading to the water. Like all fishermen, optimism rules and today is the day for the big one. Ian's and my tally for 7 solid days was one break-off after 3 minutes fight and one-10 second touch with one catfish captured trolling the basin. Others had similar experiences.

There was some discussion about moving the trip or changing to another dam but this can be left for another time.



Tech Tips- Fishing at Night

The 2 peak periods for night tide fishing are approaching the Full and New Moon. These are often times where a species will gather in an area to prepare to, or to spawn.

Where to fish?

A common approach on Full Moons when it is very bright at night is to target deeper water.

Why?

The fish feel more secure in the deep water and will be less visible to predators wanting to feed on them and therefore less skittish.

Around New Moons, there's no moon visible in the sky at night and as a result it is much darker. The fish will feel more comfortable in moving into shallow areas.

If you have a Question, or would like some information on a specific topic, please let us know and we can do a Tech Tip article on it for you. Email us at question@lureworld.com.au

KEVIN FORD

If you haven't joined Team Lure World yet,
Click here to register.

<http://www.lureworld.com.au/phplist/lists/?p=subscribe>

sales@lureworld.com.au

www.lureworld.com.au

Ph/fax 07 3829 2626

Mobile 0407 153 380

Club Logos for Shirts and Stickers for Boats

Just a reminder - for \$10.00 you can have the SBSFC logo embroidered onto your own shirt. Bring your dress shirt / polo shirt or fishing shirt to the meeting with \$10.00 and it will be back at the following meeting. The \$10.00 fee includes a \$1.00 levy that will go towards reimbursing the club for the \$75.00 set up cost.

Tom Wallbank has had a number of large and small boat stickers printed, and these are available for sale at every meeting.

COST- Small \$1; Large \$5

2008/09 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Craig Milne **Ph:** 3804 6203
SECRETARY: Ross Williamson **Ph:** 3390 4872
TREASURER: Dave Rawlins **Ph:** 5546 6588
AS-TREASURER: Mark Veivers **Ph:** 0402 046 068
ANSA REP/Rec: Lloyd Willmann **Ph:** 3287 3278
TAG. OFFR: Kevin Ford **Ph:** 3208 7630
RAFFLES: John Eldred **Ph:** 3344 2605
PUBLICITY: Ray Bricknell **Ph:** 3287 2668
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jeff Maddalena
jmaddalena@optusnet.com.au

LIBRARY STUFF

The club library has the following items available for borrowing by the members. They are available at our monthly club meetings. A \$20 deposit will be required please, just to make sure they come back at the next meeting.

- ET's Bass and Barra Fishing
- Gently Does it when releasing fish - booklet and DVD
- Gillies Introduction to Fly Fishing
- Squidgy Secrets - Part 1 Basics
- The Kayak Fishing Video (On DVD)
- Basic Bait Fishing (DVD)
- Queensland's Freshwater Fishing Impoundment Guide (NAFA / Tourism Queensland)
- Queensland's Offshore Fishing Guide (NAFA / Tourism Queensland)
- Evinrude Etec DVD
- Zed Lure field test series 2004 parts 1 to 4
- Fishing DVD volumes 1, 2 & 7
- Flathead Study (cd-rom)

USEFUL NUMBERS & WEB SITES:

SE Qld Boating Weather 1300 360 428

Qld Marine Warnings 1300 360 427

Fish watch Hotline 1800 017 116

Bureau of meteorology

<http://www.bom.gov.au/index.shtml>

Sweetwater fishing <http://sweetwaterfishing.com.au/>

Crab pot Theft Hotline 1800 017 116

Bonzer imports <http://www.bonzerimports.com/>

Brownies coast watch

<http://www.browniescoastwatch.com/>

SEQ kayak fishing <http://members.optusnet.com.au/au-kayak-fishing/>

Southern Brisbane Sportsfishing Club

<http://www.sbsfc.org/>

JOKE OF THE MONTH

On reaching his plane seat a man is surprised to see a parrot strapped in next to him. He asks the stewardess for a coffee whereupon the parrot squawks, "And get me a coke, you cow!"

The stewardess, flustered, brings back a coke for the parrot and forgets the coffee.

When this omission is pointed out to her, the parrot drains its glass and bawls "And get me another coke dogface!"

Quite upset, the girl comes back shaking with another coke but still no coffee.

Unaccustomed to such slackness the man tries the parrot's approach. "I've asked you twice for a coffee! Go and get it now you old goat!"

The next moment both he and the parrot have been wrenched up and thrown out of the emergency exit by two burly stewards.

Plunging downwards the parrot turns to him and says, "For someone who can't fly, you've got some guts!"

Classifieds

For Sale- Rod covers made to order -\$5.00
Call Mark on 0402 046 068

For Sale- Boat and trailer 4.2 m Brooker, 25hp
Evinrude .reg to Oct 2008. \$3200 ono
Ph Rob on 0423 847 314

To place an ad, simply e-mail or give the contents to your Editor.

jmaddalena@optusnet.com.au

SPECIAL DEALS

Danny Hughes -Fishing Tackle Restoration
Mobile Ph 0438 012 629

He also has 2nd hand good quality reels & rods for sale at all times.

He does all the Reel / Rod Repairs for Mossop's, Fish Head etc.

R.T.L. Trailers – 3287 4241

Mark builds trailers and repairs them very economically – a good tradesman too.

79 Boundary Street, Beenleigh

Yatala Outboard Wrecking – 38072488

Gary and Trent specialize in used parts to suit all outboard makes and models. They also do repairs and service work.

7 old Pacific Highway, Yatala.

www.outboardwrecking.com.au

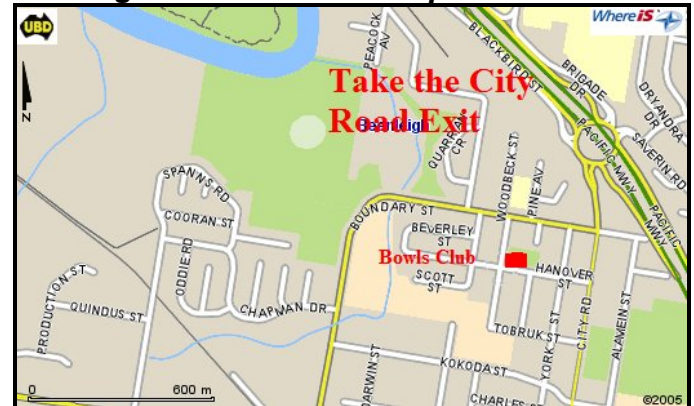
NEW MEMBERS

Prospective Members reading this Newsletter will be made very welcome at any Club meeting – so please come along and check us out at our next meeting on the first Monday of the month at 7:15pm.

NOTE: - The Bowls Club has a Bar.
Please remember the gear swap table at the meeting – bring your swaps or items for sale. This can be a great club facility if we all use it.

Single membership - \$58.00 p.a.
Family Membership - \$78.00 p.a.
Student (over 16) - \$20.00 p.a.
Child (under 16) no parent in club- \$20.00
Child (under 16) parent in club- \$10.00

Meeting Room Location Map:



Logan River Marine

Logan River Marine has been in business for 30 years. They have always based themselves on good old-fashioned service. As the boating industry has advanced, so have they, providing to all the modern demands. Whether it is the tuning of a direct injection motor or providing the latest electronic equipment, they always aim to provide for all your boating needs. Please call and talk to their friendly staff. They also offer a 15% discount to SBSFC club members in their Pro Tackle Shop.

Logan River Marine	Ph 61 7 3287 4888
1 Christensen Road	Fax 61 7 3807 0715
Yatala QLD 4207	email loganmarine@optusnet.com.au

TRIPS CALENDAR 2008

Home Trips

Month	Venue	Date	Species	Nearest Town	Accommodation	Trip Captain
January	Pimpama River	20 th	Mangrove Jack / Flathead	Gold Coast		Craig Milne
February	Southern Moreton Bay Islands	24 th	Snapper	Redland Bay		Mark Veivers
March	Mid Nerang	16 th	Bream / Mangrove Jack	Gold Coast		Kevin Ford
April	Hinze Dam	20 th	Bass	Gold Coast		Jeff Maddalena
May	Brisbane River / Mud Island	18 th	Snapper	Brisbane		Dave Dennis
June	Peel Island	22 nd	Snapper	Cleveland		John Cumberland
July	Jumpinpin / Marks Rocks (special)	13 th - 16 th	Jew	Cabbage Tree		Tom Wallbank
August	Moogerah Dam	17 th	Bass	Boonah		Glen Kennedy
September	Albert River	21 st	Bass	Beenleigh		
October	Logan River	12 th	Jew	Beenleigh		Lloyd Willmann
November	Pimpama River	9 th	Flathead	Gold Coast		Dave Dennis
December	Jabiru Island	14 th	Mangrove Jack / Flathead / Cod	Gold Coast		

Away Trips

Month	Venue	Date	Species	Nearest Town	Accommodation	Trip Captain
January	N / A					
February	Borumba Dam	22 nd - 24 th	Saratoga / Bass	Imbil	Borumba Deer Park 07 5484 5196	John Eldred
March	Noosa River	23 rd	Queenfish	Noosa		
April	Upper Albert & Logan	12/13 th	Bass / Cod	Kerry		Lloyd Willman
May	Maroon dam	24/25 th	Bass	Boonah		Jeff Maddalena
June						
July	Pumice stone Passage	12- 13 th	Snapper	Donnybrook		Neil McNeil
August	Fraser Island					
September	Tweed River / Chinderah	12 - 14 th	Flathead/Bream	Chinderah		John Cumberland
October	Clarrie Hall Dam / Top of Tweed River	4 - 5 th	Bass	Murwillumbah		Jeff Maddalena
November	Monduran	8 - 15 th	Barramundi	Gin Gin		Ross Williamson
December	Christmas Party	6 th	Beer			