



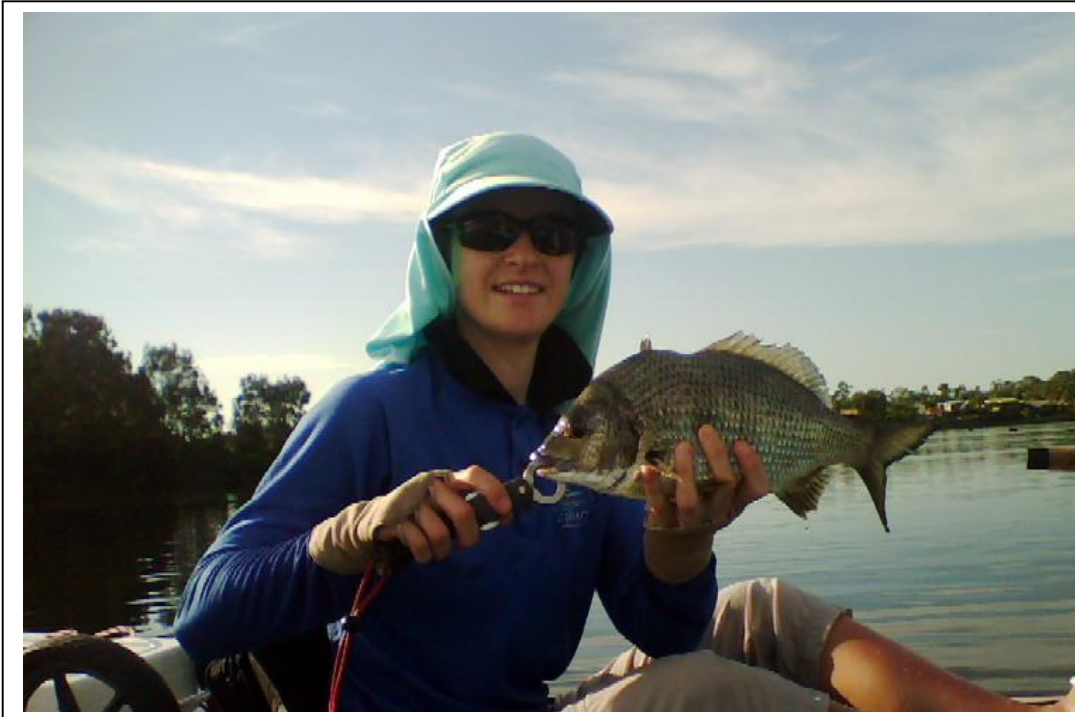
GOLD COAST SPORTFISHING CLUB



<http://goldcoastsportfishingclub.com.au/>

PO Box 1388 SOUTHPORT Qld 4215

FEBRUARY 2009 - NEWSLETTER



FISH OF THE MONTH JANUARY

Won by Tracey
Mammen.

Fifty Dollar Voucher
from
Doug Burt's Tackle
World

A fresh delivery of two Hobie Kayaks (courtesy of Santa Claus) saw Christine and I begin our tour of those Gold coast waterways inaccessible or unpopular to powerboats. This proved to be a great way to escape holiday traffic, as well as provide for some fruitful fishing. In our travels so far we have encountered a range of estuary species including; mangrove jack, bass, trevally, flathead and of course, bream. The stealthy approach afforded by the kayaks has helped me to target and catch more bream than I ever have on the powerboat.

This P.B fish was caught early on New Years day in Robina lakes. I paddled past a few turtles and large carp, beyond the dense weed to a rocky point adjacent to deeper water shaded by the branches of a large tree.

"Mmmm... there's a big bass in there" I thought to myself....

I threw a 7cm river2sea stick bait past the shade line, close to the bank and commenced a 'walk the dog' retrieve. Seconds later I witnessed a big bream launch itself at the lure with such ferocity that I nearly rolled the 'yak! After a short but intense fight, I had the fish at the boat. Measuring 39cm to the fork, this bruiser was as fat as he was old and battle scared. Evidence of previous battles (possibly with a net) is visible in the pic. I figure he'd been holding guard in that spot for a while and was pretty cranky that my lure had disturbed his peace, so after a few happy snaps I gave him a kiss and sent him on his way. We caught 7 bass between us that morning but none topped the big bream that surprised me on the first cast of 2009. Let's hope the rest of year is as much fun!

Happy fishing :)

Tracey

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email Address
President	Jamie Farragher	3807 0934/0412 789533	cloudnine9@optusnet.com.au
Vice President / Secretary			
Treasurer	Rob See	5500 6230/0434 603836	Robsee3@optusnet.com.au
Games Masters	Peter Denaro Gail le Mesurier	55476086 55462192	rdenaro@bigpond.net.au gail@galeforceboats.com.au
Publicity Officer/Membership	Irene Robertson	55 765612/0414 354 755	irene@robmcgown.com.au
Fund Raising	John Bocher	5528 3753/0407 344 083	
General Committee	Michael Sempf Paul Neilsen Tony le Mesurier Mike Halls	0401051746 55374217/0411 426794 55462192/0427 870799 5591 4651/0413 293125	serge975@hotmail.com shag1@optusnet.com.au gail@galeforceboats.com.au mikehalls@writeme.com

CLUB DATES

COMMITTEE MEETING	GENERAL MEETING
<u>FEBRUARY 5TH 7.30PM</u>	FEBRUARY 12TH 2009-7.30PM
<u>Committee Meeting</u>	<u>Guest Speaker</u>

Unfortunately Mike Halls has retired his position of Vice President and Secretary due to ill health, he will still remain on the committee. We are now looking for nominations for the above positions if you are willing to participate please let us know.

GAME MASTERS REPORT Peter Denaro and Gail Le Masurier

January was another disappointment as far as a comp goes. There were only 2 boats that fished, whereas December was cancelled altogether. Rob See and I were the 2 boats; I must admit the weather was terrible. The outside comp definitely had no takers and inside was not what you would call comfortable, with big tides, wind and rain.

My game plan was to fish the last of the ebb and the first hour to 2 hours of the flood tide upfront to get the sweeter water. The upper reaches of the water was pretty souped up, we left the ramp at 12.30pm in soupy water, we headed straight to the drop offs at Swan Bay and the sticks we were the only boat there. We put up with the shocking conditions for 1 and a half hours without a fish; we then headed for the lee side of Caruso. Conditions in comparison to where we came from, it was beautiful, I could concentrate on fishing whereas the last area most of my time was trying to keep the boat in position. On arriving at Caruso there were 3 pelicans working the weed flats on the seaward end the only birds I have seen working since I left the ramp. With a lot of work we caught 2 flathead one under and one just 41cm. Rob didn't catch a legal over 41cm so that made me the winner. What a

degrading way to win a comp with a fish that is just legal. So to those of you that did not fish, if you had competed you did not have much to beat, so you have to be in it to win it.

The BBQ weigh-in 9 people were present with Rob See being the cook and doing a great job.

Peter Denaro

FEBRUARY COMP - INSIDE / OUTSIDE COMP
Saturday 14TH Feb 5am till BBQ lunch Sun 15th Feb 1pm

Outside target species.....any pelagic fish excluding Marlin

Inside target species.....any estuary fish

The outside/inside target will be fish with the longest length.

Whatever fish you choose to be your longest length will be your target fish which will give you double points for your annual comp.

Please remember to photograph all your fish on a measuring stick as you can put your top 5 fish in the book for the annual comp. If you think you have the winning fish, get a photo of yourself with the fish for the front cover

RULES: No boundaries and you choose bait, lure, your mums casserole, whatever catches the fish. The winner cannot win both inside and outside prizes. It gives more people a chance at winning. Maybe even the little juniors could nab a prize. Please remember that no fish is worth getting hurt or damaging your boat. So please bear in mind that if it is rough outside then we have the option of the inside comp.

THE PRIZE:

Outside Prize:\$150 voucher at Doug Burt's Tackle World

Inside Prize:\$150 voucher at Doug Burt's Tackle World

If **NO FISH IS CAUGHT OUTSIDE** and only the inside fish are at the weigh in then we have decided to combine the winning prize money.

1st \$150 voucher

2nd \$100 voucher (no handicap penalty)

3rd \$50 voucher (no handicap penalty)

So guys get out there for this comp it gives a lot of anglers a chance to pick up some good vouchers to replace all the tackle we loose throughout the year.

Just another reminder to take some happy snaps of you holding up some of your better fish as it may be the winning fish and we would love to use the photo in the newsletter.

-----Explaining the rules, points & handicap system-----

Points: All fish must be legal length to count for comp and end of year point system.

1 point per cm or 10 points per kilo whatever is the greatest plus 5 points for the fish

eg. 1 whiting at 30cm = 30 points + 5 for the fish but because it is a target species for the December comp then it is double points. 1 whiting at 30cm = 70 points. 1 flathead at 40cm = 40 points + 5 for the fish and double for target species for December = 90 points. The total for your 2 fish is 160 points. You can weigh in 5 fish only 3 of the same species for the monthly comp to count towards your end of year score. They do not have to be target species.

Handicap: Winner is penalized 10% of the overall length or weight of their biggest fish for his/her next comp. Only the winner gets a penalty.

Reducing your handicap: Handicap is reduced by 2.5% after every non-successful comp.
You must fish the fishing comps to reduce your handicap.

BBQ - Weigh In: You or a crew member must attend the BBQ/Weigh in to register your catch for the comp or for the end of year score.

End of Year Score: Target fish for the monthly comps are worth the double points. 5 fish per month with only 3 being the same species. Must be caught at the monthly comps.

Photographs: Could you please bring to the BBQ/Weigh In your photos of your fish. Must be clearly on a ruler if you do not present the photo or the fish no prize will be awarded.

Vermin: No points for vermin such as sharks and stingrays. Unless it is a specified vermin competition.

With the contestants from the Flathead Classic now being members we have approximately two hundred members in the club which makes us a pretty strong fishing club. Apart from that we also had others come and join us which is great for the club.

Here is a list of websites and phone numbers that might come in useful to you.

Bureau of meteorology.	:	http://www.bom.gov.au
Coastalwatch surf cams	:	http://www.coastalwatch.com
Buoyweather	:	http://www.buoyweather.com
Fish watch Hotline	:	1800 017 116
SE Qld Boating Weather	:	1300 360 428
Crab Pot Theft Hotline	:	1800 017 116

JAMIES FISHING REPORT

gadday all.

Well the holidays are over and we're back to work for another year. I hope all your holidays went well!

December for the Farragher's consisted of a road trip to Monduran Dam just north of GinGin.

We arrived on the 27th December very late in the day, so I didn't bother attempting to venture out for a fish on the first night, but I did have a look around the camp grounds and amenities all of which are great.

I found the cleaning table for the camp ground and that's where I saw the First Barra for the trip, 117cm and fat.

I thought it was looking up for the trip.

Next morning at sunrise I set off from the ramp to scout around armed with a map of the Dam and all the advice and information from Roderick's Barra talk in December and from others who have fished there in recent times.

First up this Dam is huge, but not in the same way Awoonga Dam is huge, but still huge .

I made my way to B Bay about 10K's from the ramp, it's a daunting trip at first light threading your way through the trees. There are millions of trees and if you look from one spot you can't

see through them and you can't imagine there is a path through them, and when you do pick your way through there are still underwater hazards to be careful of.

I hit 2 trees in 23 metres, one lifting the boat slightly as I passed over it the other the prop hit (no damage).

Anyway after arriving at B Bay it looked fishy there was fish life breaking the water surface, I was pretty sure it was Large Bony Bream. There was still mist over the water and hardly a sound and no breeze.

I cast at the weed edges with hard body lures in deep and shallow divers for no result.

I changed to Soft plastics in the form of Slick Rigs, I had to lighten the weights a bit to stop getting stuck in the weed too deep.

I moved around a bit and I had a few bumps on the plastics and that's about it, after 5 hours fishing it was time to go back to the cabin for a rest and breakfast.

Day 2 same deal on the water at or before sun up I tried a different area still near B Bay but still the same result for the 5 hour session a few bumps and no hook-ups, water temp was around 27/28 deg so things should have been happening.

Day 3 I travel further up the Kolan arm of the Dam which takes you past the entrance of B Bay. All the areas here have a letter painted on the trees for reference C,D, E and so on. I fished most of these areas pretty hard over the next few days venturing as far as area "I" some 20Km's from the ramp and this place has water lily's and structure and steep banks and small gully drains entering the main water way, but still no luck. NO FISH.

I ventured back to B Bay and picked my way as far up the back of the area as I could go and found Pelicans and Shags working the area so I moved up quickly and quietly to cast a Hard body lure around the working birds and hooked up. First fish, Catfish.

Another cast at some trees and hooked up again briefly then nothing. I've been using mainly B52's and Vipers because these are proven Barra takers in this dam and in other areas as well.

I changed to plastics again and a little bit farther away hooked up again, after a few runs a second fat Catfish was released.

I even got some Hot tips from the camp ground Kiosk, apparently some guy had landed 14 fish from area C over the past 2 mornings and they suggested I try there.

Next morning I was there, with no wind I drifted so slowly I didn't need the electric to hold me in place or the need to anchor up. I turned off the sounders and Cast Slick Rigs at the large weed bed and round the weed edges and the many trees in this small bay. Zip not a touch.

The rest of the stay at Monduran was the same early starts, no fish, sunburn, go back to the cabin.

All in all this was a disappointing trip. It may sound like souer grapes from a unhappy fisherman, and it may well be but I had a lot of time to think about a lot of things while I was there.

If I had had caught fish it would have been me rerunning the thrill of catching the fish in my head while chatting with my family.

But as I didn't catch a Barra for 6 days fishing I thought about all kinds of stuff, like what did I see on the sounder, or as it was what I didn't see on the sounder.

What I didn't see was fish life of any kind. No Bass, No Barra and No Bait schools anywhere.

I've fished Hinze dam for years and know what Bass and Bait schools look like on my sounder.

I've fished Awoonga and seen the bait schools and Barra, they are easy to see and stand out even on a cheap sounder.

I didn't see any of that while I was fishing Monduran. the other thing I did notice was the lack of small fish captures and Bass captures.

Over the course of the week I had a chance to talk to a lot of anglers and of the 6 Barra and 1 Bass I heard of being caught for the week I was there the smallest fish was 96cm for the Barra and 50cm for the Bass.

Like I said before it may be souer grapes on my part, but knowing the history of the Barra comps for the Dam and having fished it before it was put forward as a barra destination and as much as it has Barra being stocked I think and this is just my opinion, the Barra that are being stocked are eating out everything else due to the lack of bait /feeder fish.

There was also a healthy Redclaw Crayfish before too, which are no longer being caught ether. Even if the fish are shut down there still should be some sign of them not just nothing.

My personal opinion is that Monduran needs a serious rethink from the stocking association.

You can't keep stocking top end predators without also adding food for them.

Anyway that was my Holiday! Pretty slack but the boat got a really good flush out.

First trip after getting back was with Tony, Peter, Candy, Glen and myself, looking for the plentiful Black Marlin in close off the Gold Coast We trolled a full spread of Skirts around looking for bait schools and after running across a few schools on the sounder we had a hook-up which ended in a nice Dolphin Fish which after 4/5 missed gaff shots self released.

We had about 4 or 5 strikes at different skirts before I had had enough from the drone from the big diesels,(I had 3 hours sleep from a lot too many beers at a work Xmas party). Anyway I had just moved to the fly bridge and my rod went off.

Peter still being there grabbed the rod and started the fight and I grabbed my camera and started taking pictures.

The fish made some good runs and jumped 5 or 6 times some of which I captured on the Digital Camera.

The lure was a Pakula Uzi Dopechie in purple 175mm.

Pete got the fish to the boat 4 or 5 times and if we had a tagging pole we could have tagged it each of the times it came boat side. We grabbed the leader and attempted to get the 50/60kg Black Marlin on board and go for the happy snap.

With 3 wraps of the leader around Tony's hand and no where to go the Marlin had a big lung and went under the back of the boat and snapped the link that holds the hook to the skirt let go. I got my skirt back but the marlin swum away to fight another day.

We all classed the fish as caught even though we didn't get it on board which gives Peter a third Metre capture to add to his shirt . He now has Barramundi, Cobia and Black Marlin.

January Trip. Peter and I headed out off the Gold Coast looking for the Mackeral that are supposed to be there.

We left the seaway at around 5am the forecast was good for the morning with an E/Ne wind to kick in later in the day.

After a short discussion we headed south looking for life on the sounder, at a spot just out and north of Mermaid Reef we put out 2 skirts and started our troll south. Just north of Mermaid the sounder showed some good bait schools on the sounder and just after we passed over one of these schools Peter's rod went off ratchet screaming. It sure gets the heart pumping when you get a strike after you have been sitting waiting for 30 or 40 minutes.

Peter upped the drag setting a little and fought the fish to the gaff, a healthy 96cm Spottie Mackeral went into the kill tank. Next I was on strike, Peter says next fish on you grab it.

About 20 minutes later in close at Mermaid Reef on a line I'd trolled last year for Mackeral and Peter's rod went off again.

Pete says grab it and it was my turn to fight the fish in, this fish was a bit bigger than Pete's fish, this fish a 120cm Spanish Mackeral, we had dinner.

We trolled around for a while then moved south to Palm Beach reef area, as we trolled into the area where the other boats were we could see a few boats with fish on. Time to start casting slugs. I started with a 40 gram Gillies and Peter a 30gram after a couple hook-ups for lost fish I changed to a 40 gram Chrome Raider, and hooked up on the second cast.

I lost that one, Peter was on next and lost that fish too.

I got 1 more Mackerel to the kill tank before to long a spottie at just under a metre ten . that's my second metre fish woo hoo.

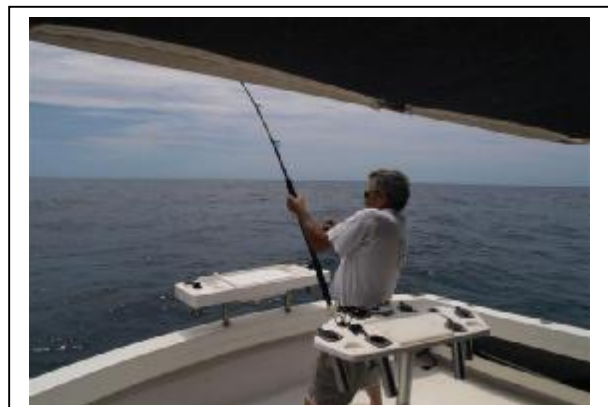
Peter got a second spottie also, a tad under a metre, these are good quality fish. We had a couple of hook-ups and bite offs before it was decided that we had enough fish on board and to call it a day.

Back at the ramp we cleaned the fish and headed for home. I hope the reports from farther north on the Mackerel are true and we get the same record season they are having up north. till next trip good fishing.



Jamie and Peter on their Mackerel trip

Peter's Marlin



AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND

Had 2 trips out over the Australia Day weekend and the fishing was pretty sad.

Went out with Peter Saturday to chase a mackerel or 2 and the forecast was very average to say the least.

We fished from the seaway south to Mermaid and Palm Beach reef.

By the time we got to Mermaid we hadn't had a touch so we drifted around with the 38 other Wally's waiting for some very timid fish.

A few fellers got couple but while we were there, there was one bust up on the surface which I cast at and hooked and landed my one and only Spottie for the day, one bite off and one blistering run then nothing .

Pete's luck was not that flash ether.

I backed up for a second trip with Tony chasing a Marlin or mackerel and trolling all day we didn't raise a fish.

Monday was the same for many other fishermen too with no fish being caught for a fair bit of effort. till next month get out there and chase the mackerel.

Cheers Jamie.

If anyone is looking to get their reels repaired or serviced I had one of mine done recently.

Here are the details: Irene

REEL SERVICE AUSTRALIA	
Pete Charles	
07 55642052	
Abu - Alvey	Reel Repair &
Diawa - Okuma	Service Specialists
Penn - Shimano	48 Hour return
Tica	Guarantee Given
1/8 Topaz Court, Hollywell, Qld 4216	

Tight Lines

Irene

JANUARY COMP WON BY PETER DENARO

NAME	FISH	SPECIES	CM	SPECIES	CM	SPECIES	TOTAL
Peter Denaro	1	Flathead	41				86
Rob See	0	0	0				0

LISTED BELOW ARE THE YEARLY COMP POINTS TOTALS

NAME	MONTH	PTS	TOTAL	NAME	HANDICAPS JANUARY
Dan Halls	Jan	0	1101	G McConnell	15.00%
Mike Halls	Jan	0	680	Rob See	0.00%
Guy McConnell	Jan	0	1026	Dan Halls	5%
Steve McConnell	Jan	0	1175	J Morris	2.50%
Rob See	Jan	0	546	P Denaro	15.00%
Peter Denaro	Jan	86	980	P Harich	7.50%
Steve Wilson	Jan	0	215	C Pulvirenti	10%
Tony Lemasurier	Jan	0	535		
Fay Rohweder	Jan	0	98		
Sarah Lemasurier	Jan	0	35		
Irene Robertson	Jan	0	427		
Jamie Farragher	Jan	0	411		
Paul Harich	Jan	0	651		
Darren Nagorcka	Jan	0	381		
John Morris	Jan	0	331		
Graham Kennedy	Jan	0	293		
Chris Nelson	Jan	0	97		
Christine Hunt	Jan	0	136		
Tracey Memmen	Jan	0	0		
Paul Neilsen	Jan	0	404		
Jake Neilsen (J)	Jan	0	242		
Luke LeMasurier	Jan	0	92		
Gail LeMasurier	Jan	0	69		
Terry Ryan	Jan	0	50		
Corey Tarr	Jan	0	404		

**OUR FEBRUARY COMP WILL BE ANY PELAGIC FISH OUTSIDE
AND ANY ESTUARY FISH INSIDE
SATURDAY 14TH AND SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY FINISH MIDDAY
BBQ AND WEIGH IN 1 PM SUNDAY. DON'T FORGET TO TAKE PHOTOS
OR BRING THE FISH IN**