

SANDI ANGLING NEWS:-

NEWSLETTER OF THE SANDRINGHAM ANGLER'S CLUB:-



Issue #6 (November 2013 to February 2014)

Sandringham Anglers' Club
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Email:- info@sandringhamanglersclub.com

Club meetings are held every Tuesday from 8:00pm, visitors are always welcome and new members are encouraged.

The club rooms are located at the end of Jetty Road, Sandringham and are licensed for the responsible serving of alcohol.

Introduction:-

Welcome to the Sixth edition of the Sandi Angling News. It's been a very hectic quarter at the club with lots of snapper fishing completed and plenty of informative club night presentations to report on.

I am sure all club members are eagerly awaiting the start of our whiting competition season.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Sandi Angling news and get some useful tips and information out of it.

And remember keep the photos, rumours and news coming so that it can be published in the next newsletter.

Thanks.....Ed.

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Presidents Report:-

Hello all and welcome to autumn.

Firstly I would like to welcome all our new members, it seems like we have had quite an influx recently. Please make yourself known down the club and if you want to join us in any upcoming fishing activities and you don't have a ride please put your hand up and I am sure we can accommodate you.

We have a few more guest speaker nights coming up so watch out for the details. The last couple have been very informative.

Also, good luck to all the members going on our yearly social trip to Mallacoota. I will try to post a daily update on Facebook (if you have not already joined our facebook group, I encourage you to check it out). Hopefully there will be some great captures.

And lastly please try to make it down to our next working bee which will hopefully be coming in the next couple of months. We will advise all members of a date soon. We have plenty to do and more hands definitely helps.

Tight lines

Jim

To assist in preparing this newsletter we value and encourage contributions from our members. If you've recently enjoyed yourself on a club fishing trip or even a great private fishing adventure, have any photos to share or have seen something worthy of a paddle nomination then please let someone on the committee know or email us on: info@sandringhamanglersclub.com

Sandringham Anglers' Club



Club Information:-

Sandringham Anglers Club Committee for 2013/2014 is:-

President:	Jim Kavanagh
Vice President:	David Oates
Treasurer:	Andre Vidovic
Secretary:	Greg Stephens
Angling Secretary:	Ron Wilson
Boat Captain	Garry Meehan
Property Officer:	Mark Hocking
Publicity Officer:	Steve Wilson
General Committee:	Dave Clark Peter Brown

Facebook

The club has various ways which it keeps in touch and communicates with its members. There is our website, this newsletter, our regular emails and even the weekly club nights. One informal way that we are also keeping members informed is via Facebook.

The Anglers Club has a closed group page. It's easy to join. Find us on Facebook by searching for Sandringham Anglers Club, then click the "join now" link/button. Someone from committee will then accept your application and then you will be able to join in the general banter that is common on social media.

It is free to join and available to all current financial members.

Snapper Presentation Night

On the 29th October 2013, we were extremely privileged to have Paul Hamer, Senior Research Scientist in the Department of Environment and Primary Industries visit our club to give a presentation on snapper in Port Phillip Bay. He has vast experience and hands on knowledge studying the snapper fishery in Victoria. He provided a very interesting and informative evening covering a wide range of topics all to do with snapper. I have tried to provide a summary of his presentation but it goes

nowhere near covering the vast amount of information provided on the night.

Paul's experience with snapper is extensive with plenty of hands on experience with lots of trials conducted in Port Philip Bay and Westernport. These trials have included acoustic tagging pinkies and adult snapper and trawling fine meshed sieves through the water column to conduct counts on newly hatched snapper.

Snapper are prevalent in 3 distinctive strains and these three rarely mix. These snapper cover the following territories

- From Wilsons Promontory North to Queensland.
- From Wilsons Promontory West to the Murray River Mouth
- South Australia West to WA.

Current catch rates for snapper are:-

- Commercial 100 -200 Tonnes
- Recreational catch 300 -400 tonnes.

This highlights importance for all us recreational fishos' that doing the right thing to ensure the continued success of snapper fishery.

Adult Snapper mature around 5 years of age (approximately 40cm) and live upwards of 40 years. Their reproductive peak occurs around 12 – 15 years of Age.

Snapper undertake big migrations into Bays and Estuaries to Spawn. Port Phillip Bay is critical top snapper fishery as it is one of the few if not the only spawning grounds where baby snapper can successfully thrive. Snapper spawn when the water is between 18 and 22 °C. This temperature is critical as snapper eggs won't survive above 22 °C and the juveniles don't thrive below 18 °C.

Club Information:-



Just hatched snapper (i.e. only days old) only eat the juvenile form of one type of micro-organism (my apologies to any closet biologists as I didn't write the name of the organism down thinking Google would help. Unfortunately for the first time ever Google has let me down). But I digress, as the snapper grows to be several weeks old it then starts eating the adult form of that same organism. So it's pretty clear that the success of snapper spawning and our future fishing stocks are heavily dependent on the health and abundance of one specific marine micro organism. Paul went on to display some graphs that showed significant rainfall events in Melbourne, causing large water flushing events into the Yarra strongly correlating to having an abundance of snapper stocks about 5-6 years later. Another trend was Pinkies move into inshore reefs in winter and then out in the deeper water over the mud in summer.

So with the last few years drought relieving rain we can hopefully expect some bumper snapper season's in 5 to 6 years time. And judging by the quantity of 10cm long snapper being caught at present I think this is one prediction that may well come true.

We are hoping to have Paul come back and do a similar talk on whiting stocks in PPB and I highly recommend that if you get a chance you come down to the club for that as it will also be extremely informative.....(Report by Andre)

Security of Clubrooms

Disappointingly prior to Christmas (between 5th and 16th November 2103) one of our club members kayaks was stolen from the clubhouse. As there was no physical break-in the theft was either done by someone with access to a key or alternatively an opportunistic theft after someone has inadvertently left the door or shutters open and the club unattended. This just emphasise the importance of following some common sense procedures when dealing with the security of our equipment.

When storing any gear at the clubrooms or even when you are doing any activities around the club the following actions are recommended:-

- Kayaks and other gear left at the club should be locked / chained to the racks.
- Members should ensure that their kayaks are insured against theft and damage.
- Be aware and ensure that clubrooms are locked upon leaving the premises, even if this is only for a short period of time. (I.e. even if only taking your kayak from the clubrooms the short distance down to the beach).

Model Club Rules:

On the 12th November 2013 the Angling club committee called an extraordinary general meeting to discuss and propose the acceptance of new model club rules

These model rules are supplied by Consumer Affairs Victoria and every incorporated association had a choice to retain their existing rules or adopt the model rules. Discussion on the club night was held whether to retain our current club rules or adopt the model rules. As adopting the model rules would save the club considerable time and money it was voted in unanimously.

If you wish to read our new club rules then there is a copy available in the club rooms. So come down on Tuesday night and someone from Committee will point you in the right direction.



Club Fishing Reports:-

20th October 2013

SAC vs BYMS vs MENTONE

(Trailer Boat 1)

The one disappointment of the start of the snapper season was the cancellation of the SAC vs BMYS vs Mentone annual competition due to strong winds. Having moved this competition to mid October instead of the traditional 4-6 weeks earlier to take advantage of the onset of the snapper season, the decision was made to cancel the preceding evening when the BOM issued a strong wind warning for PPB on the Sunday morning.



The season's first snapper Weigh in.

27th October 2013

Jeff Worle Trophy

(Snapper 1)

There was a very healthy turnout of members (and 1 non-member) who fished the opening snapper comp of the season, and enjoyed light winds and plenty of fish, with 7 members weighing in at the traditional sausage sizzle.

Following on from his extremely good snapper form of last year was Andres "snapper" Vidovic, who weighed in 3 beautiful fish – the heaviest of which was 4.492 kgs - for a total bag of 11.375kgs. Sensational effort Andres, and fully deserving of first place! Hot on his heels was Mark Hocking, also with a bag of 3 fish weighing in at 9.820 kgs. The lads fished a lot further south in the Bay – something to remember next year.

Third place went to local snapper guru, Ron Wilson, who, whilst only weighing in 2 fish, managed the heaviest fish for the day with one just over 5 kilos.

Others to weigh in included Paul Lindholm, who finally christened his new boat – well done Paul, Jim Kavanagh with 2 good fish, and Dave Clarke and Peter Brown both registering with the scorers. All in all, 14 fish weighed in for a total weight of over 43 kgs! Well done to all concerned.



Willow with the Current seasons heaviest Snapper –

Club Fishing Reports:-

16th November 2013

77th Anniversary Comp (Twilight Comp) (Snapper 2)

Once again there were healthy numbers fishing the twilight comp, but unfortunately the earlier promising forecast of 10-15knot winds turned out to be somewhat inaccurate with a 20 knot southerly blowing pretty much the entire afternoon and evening.

For those who ventured out, it was tough going, and made worse by the plagues of hungry Shearwaters that were looking for any sort of food, which often included baits!



Greg determined to weigh in a yak Snapper

As a result, only 5 members (and 1 non member from the Wilson clan) weighed in a total of 11 fish at a combined weight of more than 25 kilos. The pleasing aspect was the new names on the podium! Steve Wilson claimed first place with a nice bag of three fish, whilst Peter Brown's bag of two – including the heaviest fish of the day at 3.154 kgs was enough to claim 2nd place. Gary Ling made a welcome return to the Club and claimed 15 points with a good fish, whilst Alex "Ax" Pansow (Phil's mate) caught his first ever snapper and snared 16 points.

Oh, and in case you're wondering who claimed 3rd – it was Ron Wilson – AGAIN! (Well done to all!)

And one final point! Andres, not to be outdone in missing out on the snapper action, caught a lovely flathead!

24th November 2013

Club Memorial Trophy (Snapper 3)

The good thing about having a backup date for a snapper comp is that invariably you will need to use it, and so it came to pass. With strong winds blowing out the original competition date, the wind gods were considerably kinder to those who fished the backup comp on Sunday 1st December. Gentle easterlies greeted those fished, although numbers were down on previous comps – most likely because of the rescheduled date. Only 9 or so were able to fish, and surprisingly, the snapper seemed to have quietened down a bit after a frenetic October and November. Only 4 fish were weighed in by three members, with the size and weight being smaller than in the earlier comps.

But if you're looking for different names in the place getters, you're going to be sorely disappointed. The order may have altered slightly, but three of the "snapper guns" occupied the podium places, with Ron Wilson taking our first place with a bag weight nudging the 5kg mark. And to keep it in the family, son Steve weighed in a fish to take our 2nd with Andres finishing 3rd with 1 fish. A great effort to all concerned!

All in all the snapper competitions would have to be described as a big success. Despite some at times "challenging conditions", we managed to get the 3 snapper comps in, and certainly in the first two, had some very good results.

Club Fishing Reports:-



Dave happily weighs in a Snapper that the seals didn't get..

15th December 2013

Westernport & Outside

(Trailer boat 2)

Good weather and good numbers marked the first trailer boat competition of the season on Westernport, with members having the choice of two weigh in locations being Hastings and Corinella. All in all, the fishing was a little disappointing, with only 36 fish weighed in for a catch total that did not even tip over 10 kgs. The one saving grace was that all members bar one weighed in a fish, which was pleasing.

King George whiting was the dominant species weighed in, with Mark Hocking getting amongst them, as well as a few other species, to weigh in a bag of 9 fish at a combined weight of 1.698 kilos to take out first place. Well done Mark! Second place went to your scribe, Phil, who, believe it or not, had been unable to trouble the scorers since June of 2013! I think the sensation experience was more one of relief than joy,

but 4 whiting and a salmon were enough to give Phil 2nd place on the podium. Greg Stephens, fishing from his yak on the Corinella side, landed a mixed bag including a leatherjacket, and took out 3rd place, whilst Deb Wilson weighed in a lovely leatherjacket that went more than half a kilo. Amongst the other regulars, plenty of fish caught, but none of those great snapper or gummies one hopes for when fishing Westernport. Still, catching some fish was certainly better than catching no fish!

19th January 2014 Port Phillip Bay

(Whiting 1)

Port Phillip Bay – Whiting competition

The less said about the first competition in the New Year the better! Lumpy seas, NO King George Whiting and plague proportions of baby (and I mean baby) pinkies greeted the 10 or so members who fished. Not one whiting weighed in, but it has to be said that the sausage sizzle was most enjoyable. Thanks Garry!

Tight lines!

Editors Note:-

I can personally vouch for the accuracy in the use of the term “plague” proportions of baby snapper. I fished with Dave and we would have accounted for several dozen each across the twenty or so different locations we tried. Thankfully we did manage to find 3 pink keepers which tasted pretty fine.

Just as a suggestion, Ian Jones at the KG whiting presentation night mentioned that he liked to fish for whiting in PPB in autumn rather than the hotter days in January. Poor whiting catches in our last two January PPB whiting competitions may give some momentum for a move of this comp next year to the autumn months. Just a thought.

New Club Record.....

The Angling Club would like to congratulate Alistair for his recent whiting catch which is now a new Club Record. The fish was caught on December 2013, during the Westernport (Trailer boat 2) competition.

Apparently there was some confusion at the kayak weigh in spot when Al presented this fish. Fresh of the Paddle award victory last season for his now infamous "that's not a whiting, this is a whiting "uh sorry mullet" incident Jimmy was not keen to put his reputation on the line again and call the species. Instead he posted a picture on the clubs Facebook page. The verdict was unanimous, "a grass whiting", and a female one at that.



Al's new club record grass whiting.

This is Als' first fish he has ever weighed in during his time at the club, so it makes the feat all the more impressive

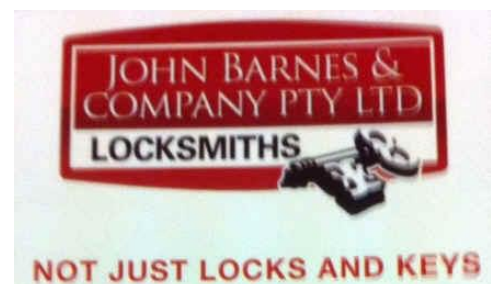
Three cheers for Al and we really look forward to seeing the second fish you weigh in.

For the record the fish weighed in at 0.320Kg.



SPONSORS:

Sandringham Anglers wishes to thank the following major sponsors for their support in 2013/2014.



Interested in becoming a major sponsor, then contact the club on (03) 9598 9664 or email info@sandringhamanglersclub.com

Championship Ladder



Championship Ladder-(Top 15) (as of 15th February 2014)		
1 st	Ron W	145
2 nd	Peter B	76
3 rd	Andres V	66
4 th	JB	60
5 th	Mark H	53
6 th	Steve W	49
7 th	Glen H	46
=8 th	Jim K	39
=8 th	Dave C	39
10 th	Phil S	36
11 th	Greg S	35
12 th	Terry B	31
13 th	Paul L	21
14 th	Ron R	19
15 th	Deb W	17

Half the championship year is complete, and our reigning champion "Willow" has raced away to an almost unassailable lead with a solid snapper season. At double the points of his nearest rivals he is a solid favourite to once again retain his title. A solid season from Peter Brown in his second year at the club sees him move into second. With JB back from holidays and Andres posting a solid snapper season to work his way up the leader board it will be a tight finish for the minor placings.

In the Gunboat competition we also see Willow pulling ahead of his rivals. Peter on Fishinator is still close enough to pip him by season's end. White lightning has come from nowhere to be in third. As a keen whiting fisho Mark will have a good chance of making up some ground by the end of the season.

Boat Captains Ladder (31st December 2014)		
1 st	Willow	170
2 nd	Fishinator	112
3 rd	White Lightning	86
4 th	Slapper	57
5 th	Haystack	54
6 th	Mullumbimbi	32
7 th	Wrapper Man	26
8 th	Blacky	25
9 th	Redgum	17

We have also had some action in the "yak attack" competition. Finally some fish have been weighed in by our intrepid yakkers. It will be a tight run to the finish with Greg S currently leading on 17 points only 6 points in front of our president Jimmy and with his first ever fish weighed in AI is a close third.

Upcoming Competitions:-



It's time to get out and catch some kidney slappers. The start of autumn signals whiting season in Westernport. Enjoy the last of our warm weather and get out with the club for a fish.

Upcoming Competitions (March – June 2014)

Date	Location	Event Type	Competition Type and Weigh In
Mar 15	Westernport	Whiting 2	Heaviest bag of 10, Weigh In Hastings / Corinlla 3 PM. H/Tide 12:20pm
Mar 22-29	Mallacoota Inlet	Social Week	Club Social Trip (no points)
Apr 13	Westernport	Whiting 2	Heaviest bag of 10, Weigh in Stony Point / Corinella 2.00pm H/T 10:34
Apr 27	TBD	Surf 3	H/bag of 10 (fish to be cleaned). Weigh In TBA 12.00pm H/Tide 9:44am
May 17-18	Lake Dartmouth (R Clarke Memorial Trophy)	Freshwater 3	Heaviest bag of 10, Weigh in SAT TBD pm and Sunday 12 Noon
June 1	Port Phillip Bay	T/Boat 5	Heaviest bag of 10, Weigh In SAC 1.00pm L/Tide 11:19am
June 14-15	Hollands Landing	Estuary 2	Heaviest bag of 10, Weigh in Sat 5pm and Sun 12 noon

It Tastes Just Like Mutton..

For this edition of “Old Wives Tales”, I have decided to deviate away from investigating those widespread myths and misconceptions common in our pastime of angling and instead delve into an area that came to prominence this summer and directly impacted many of those fishing the bay this season.

“Mutton Birds”, many of us felt the annoyance of these small birds as they hounded boats in small gangs and stole berley and annoyingly chased down cast baits occasionally swallowing hooks or getting caught in lines. Others recall seeing lots of dead birds washing up along the bays beaches. I even heard a tale on the radio of a man doing his daily swim between a couple of piers in southern Victoria and being dive bombed by mutton birds pecking at his fingers and toes.

For many fishos this is the first time they have seen mutton birds in these quantities and with this level of desperation. So what has made this year so unique.

What is a Mutton Bird?

The mutton bird is actually a Tasmanian shearwater (*Puffinus tenuirostris*). It is a species of Petrel and the only petrel whose breeding grounds lie solely in Australia. Most colonies are to be found on islands off south east Australia and predominantly in Bass Strait. There are 285 colonies found in South East Australia. The mutton bird is the most abundant sea



bird in Australia and it is estimated that there are over 23million birds.

Adult birds reach a wingspan of about 1m and weigh 500grams. They have webbed feet and are excellent swimmers diving up to 10 metres deep (as most fisherman found out as they dive deep enough to snaffle cast baits). They normally eat krill fish and squid. The birds reach reproductive maturity 5 years and live on average to between 15 to 19 years of age.

Birds return to the same nesting ground and even the same burrow each year. Burrows are dug into soft soil or sand. Mating occurs in early October and each breeding pair lays one egg in November. The pair alternate incubation with each bird spending approximately two weeks on the egg before heading out to sea to feed for two weeks. The Egg hatches in third week of January.

After hatching the chicks are left on their own whilst the parents fly out to feed. They return regularly to feed the chick with the period between feeds increasing until it gets to about two weeks. During this time the adult birds forage far and wide and can travel up to 1500km away looking for food.



Mutton Bird Migration and life cycle.

The mutton bird is a magnificent sea farer. It undertakes an amazing annual migration. In April after breeding season the adult birds leave the pacific (South East Australia), leaving their young behind Birds. They fly north to wintering grounds around the Aleutian Islands

and finally to the Kamchatka peninsula (at the northern-most extremity of the Pacific, where they spend the summer feeding around the Bering Sea. The total journey is about 15,000km and is completed in approximately 2 months.

The young chicks once they are able to fly eventually leave on their own in May. They find their way along the same migration route without any assistance from adult birds. The mortality for young birds in their first year is high and up to 50% of chicks do not survive their first migration.



The return migration in the northern hemispheres autumn follows the coast of North America then south west across the Pacific utilising the prevailing winds. The final leg of the migration is the most difficult as the birds battle against South Easterly winds. The birds begin to arrive in south eastern Australia around late September.

During these long migrations exhausted and starved birds are often washed up on beaches in Japan, North America and of course Australia.

How Widespread is the problem?

The big unanswered question is surely, why are the mutton birds here in Port Phillip and obviously starving and dying in such large numbers. The problem is also very widespread. A quick scan of the internet of all the local newspapers has articles highlighting dead mutton birds on beaches from as far north as Queensland between Mackay and the Sunshine Coast, through NSW from Coffs Harbour all

the way down to the border on Gabo Island and then Victoria from our own Bay all the way along the coast to Portland. Even South Australia had a few articles talking about the dying birds ranging from Victor Harbour to Ceduna.

As an example of the reporting I have the following extract from the Burnie Advocate.

MUTTON BIRDS DYING IN THOUSANDS.

“Melbourne, Monday, Muttonbirds in Bass Strait and even Port Phillip Bay are dying in thousands from starvation. Not only are the dead birds lying on the beaches along the Victorian Coast but on the surface of the ocean also”

What might surprise is that this newspaper article appeared in the Burnie Advocate on October 30, 1934.

So it appears that this phenomenon is not necessarily new or unique and has occurred before. In fact anecdotally it appears that mass mutton bird deaths seem to happen on a periodic basis.

Why are they dying in their thousands?

No one knows why mutton birds are dying in such large quantities this season. There is much speculation that it's caused by a variety of factors.

The most significant factor may be poor weather. As the migrations routes are long and arduous any adverse weather and strong winds during the migration period may cause many birds especially the weaker and poor conditioned ones to die along the way. Another explanation involves poor weather either in Australia or over the Bering Sea whilst birds are feeding up preparing for the migration. Poor weather may impact on the availability of feed and result in birds not being adequately fattened up for the long migration.

Some people also speculate that birds may not find the usual quantity of food when they reach their destinations, so the shearwaters

cannot recovery their condition quickly enough and so face starvation.

There is also the usual spectre of climate change. Warming seas may be causing changes to baitfish and krill quantities and migration patterns. This may be impacting on the abilities of mutton birds to find sufficient quantity of food to sustain such large populations.

One thing is for sure that if history is anything to go by we can expect more visitations in Port Philip Bay from mutton birds some snapper season in the near future. Maybe knowing a bit more about these little birds I now may not feel so bad if they are gorging themselves at my expense on my berley and bait.

Where does the name come from?

The name mutton bird was first used by the early settlers on Norfolk Island. Each year the islanders harvested the adult Providence Petrels for food. The locals often called them flying sheep. The Providence Petrel is similar but a larger relative of the shearwater. The Providence Petrel was unfortunately harvested into extinction and the name was then transferred to the shearwater.

Do they really taste like mutton?

One question I have always been curios about is does a mutton bird really live up to its namesake in the tastes department?

I was fortunate enough to come across a Tasmanian gentlemen who grew up many years ago along the coast of Tasmania where it was legal to harvest mutton birds. In his opinion he thought that mutton bird was an acquired taste, and not everyone liked it. He recalled it having a strong oily flavour.

The mutton bird is one of the few native birds that are commercially harvested. Up to 200,000 chicks are taken each year for their feathers, oil and food. This occurs predominantly in Tasmania.

NOTE:- Before you decide you were personally like to experience the taste of a mutton bird please

remember that it is illegal to take / harvest mutton birds in Victoria

Want to experience the joy of mutton birds in the wild without them trying to steal your berley or bait? Then how about enjoying a visit to a mutton bird breeding colony?

Many years ago I had a thoroughly enjoyable experience of visiting the mutton bird breeding colony of Griffith Island. Griffith Island is located just off the coast from Port Fairy and is linked to the mainland via a causeway. I visited the area in late February and arrived on the island for sunset. On sunset hundreds of mutton birds would be seen circling above before coming down to land on the ground. Sometimes the birds would land only metres away from my feet before they scurried off to their burrows to feed their waiting chicks.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and maybe if the club is at Port fairy for a fishing competition during summer one year, you could maybe take a detour for an hour from your pub dinner and spend an hour with the mutton birds.

Check it out on the net.....Ed

Information relating to mutton-birds for this article sourced from the following websites:-

www.parks.tas.gov.au &

www.port-fairy.com/shearwater



SALT N PEPPERSQUID

Whilst fishing the whiting beds this autumn how about casting out a squid jig. If you manage to catch one and you already have too much snapper bait then how about trying a a serving of salt and pepper squid.



Ingredients:-

- Squid (gutted, skinned and de-boned).
- Coarse Salt & Black Pepper corns
- Plain Flour
- Oil & Lemon Juice

Method:-

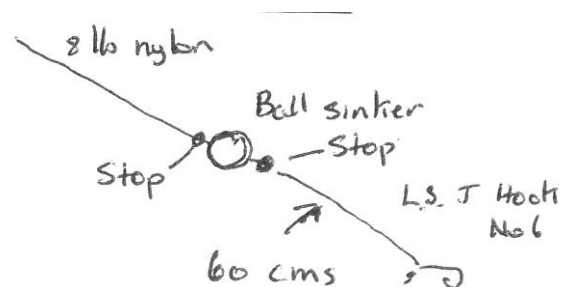
- Take cleaned squid tube and slice down one side to form a large triangular shaped sheet
- Pat Squid dry then score one side of squid in crisscross pattern, but don't cut through the squid.
- Grind salt & pepper to fine powder and then spread a generous amount into squid ensuring you get some into the score marks.
- Cut squid into bite size squares.
- In a ziplock back place ½ cup plain flour and any remaining salt and pepper. Put squid pieces in and shake vigorously to fully coat with flour.
- Add squid to hot oiled pan and after 1 minute turn over. Take care NOT to overcook them.
- Place cooked squid onto absorbent paper.
- Place on plate and prior to serving squeeze over some lemon juice.

.....Enjoy!

For this editions members rig I have published a rig kindly shared with us by Ian Jones at the recent whiting presentation night. It was a rig he called the "Brian Wilson swinger rig".

Method:-

- Use an 8 lb main line
- Around a small ball sinker place two stops.
- After the sinker / stops allow about another 60cm of line.
- Tie on a Long Shank No. 6 J hook.
- Suspend this below a float as you would a single hook rig.



The secret to fishing this rig is to throw it straight out the back of the boat and then lift it about 2 feet off the bottom. This allows the rig to swing seductively in the current and within close proximity to the berley trail.

So next time you are whiting fishing in Port Phillip Bay how about giving this rig a try. Hopefully Brian Wilson isn't too disappointed that his secret rig is now in print.

Social Calender:-

Presentation Night:-

King George Whiting Presentation. (January 2014)

In mid January we had Ian Jones give about 25 people a master-class on fishing for whiting in Port Phillip Bay. Some people may have previously met Ian, where he occasionally works at our major sponsors fishing shop, Southern Sportsfishing. Here is a summary of some of the topics covered.

King George Whiting are widely distributed from Geraldton in WA to Jervis Bay in NSW. They are believed to spawn in deeper water off Kangaroo Island in South Australia. The Larvae drift with the westerly winds and tides and find their way into the eastern bays and estuaries.

In PPB to catch whiting Ian uses a nibble tip rod with a size 2500 reel. Spool this reel with 6lb mono line and finish the rig off with a size 6 shiner hook or a long shank J hook. Ian prefers fishing mono as PPB is a lot snaggy than Westernport. Ian finds that he is constantly re-rigging and mono makes this process much easier and quicker.

Ian believes in fishing as light a sinker as possible (00 or 0's). This helps the bait drift a bit in the slower current and makes it more easily visible to passing whiting. He also likes to actively fish and keeps his baits regularly moving. In terms of baits his favourite was mussels, followed by pipi, squid prawn or pilchard fillets.

Ian went on to generously divulge some his more favoured spots which ranged widely from Mordialloc to the Sandringham Breakwall. There were literally dozens and I won't publish them



here. Think of it as an incentive to turn up to presentation nights. One think was clear about all these locations. He prefers fishing structure such as drop offs and ledges in the deeper areas and then the scattered weed edges and sand holes closer in. His preferred depths are between 22 and 18 ft and then the shallows between 8 and 13 feet.

The important thing that he emphasised was that to fish for whiting you had to be active and keep moving. If you were not getting fish within 15 minutes then move, even if it was only a couple of hundred meters.

His preferred times to fish were early am, evenings or tide changes. The more tidal movement the better.

I would like to personally thank Ian for his time and generously giving us some candid and useful fishing information on the night.

Paddle Nominations:-

In the never ending quest to improve our fishing skills, there is always the chance that things will go wrong. As long as someone is there to witness the event and pass it on for others in the club to enjoy then there is

always the chance for that unlucky person to walk away with the coveted "Paddle Award". Here are some snippets of the latest nominations.

Peter B, eager to get out to the fishing grounds managed to forget to connect his fuel line prior to setting off from the boat ramp. He had to quickly drop anchor to stop drifting into the nearby rocks, before hooking up is fuel line and going on his way.

Serial nominee Jimmy also gets an early running. Whilst out fishing for snapper with his son he tried to cast one a bit too far. As he was trying to cast out his lure he accidentally snagged a rod behind him. During the cast it was flicked out of the rod holder and quickly sank to the bottom. At least Jimmy got to weigh in a snapper later that day, which may have taken some of the sting out of losing a fully rigged outfit.

Showing that even family ties aren't as strong as the allure of a paddle award nomination, our angling secretary Willow recently dobed in his daughter-in-law. On a recent private trip he went to launch at the ramp for a sunrise snapper fish and had some technical issues with none of his dials working. He managed to limp out to the fishing grounds without a fuel gauge, speed or motor position. Apparently all his technical gremlins were resolved once Deb had eaten the two bananas she had brought on board.

New Members

A big warm welcome aboard to the following new members:-

- ❖ John Mattheson
- ❖ Rob Kaldor
- ❖ Phillip Clark
- ❖ Jim Goudie

With some of our latest members already participating in some of our fishing comps, weigh-ins and presentation nights we look forward to seeing all our new members regularly at our Tuesday club nights and our fishing competitions

A New Addition.

A big congratulation to club member Mark and his wife Lynda. They recently greeted the arrival of a new baby girl.



This is Mark's first child and we wish him and his family all the best.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Angling club then please drop us a note on email. Our email address is info@sandringhamanglersclub.com

Alternatively come down to club night on Tuesdays from 8pm and have a chat.

Footy Tipping.

The only thing to excite an angler more than getting out of bed early for a solid days fishing is the onset of Footy Season. And footy season means one thing, footy tipping. Once Again Paul has generously given his time to run the footy tipping. Remeber youhave to be in it to win it.












Sandringham Angler's Club 2014 AFL Premiership Season Footy Tipping

Entry: \$ 1:00 per round (Home and Away only)
To be paid by round 5.
Payment can be made in person at the Bar.
1st prize 60%
2nd prize 30%
3rd prize 10%

If it is not possible to put your tips in online,
we can organise to do it for you by prior arrangement on the
Tuesday Night prior to the start of that round.
Note: No responsibility for errors.

Round 1 Collingwood Magpies v Fremantle Dockers,
Friday March 14th 2014
at Etihad Stadium

Blind Rounds
Rounds 21,22,23 will be blind rounds, no results will be posted

Joker Round
In a Joker Round a your score for that round is doubled
You can choose to play the Joker from rounds 1 to 23.

Straight Pick
For an additional \$1:00 per round
you can win a share of the pool if you successfully
pick all the winners for that round.
The prizes will be paid after the completion
of the Home and away season

To join go to www.footytips.com.au
And register yourself
Then send an email to
paulkindholtm@icloud.com
I will send an invitation to you with
all of the instructions and passwords
required to get you started.

Good Luck with your Tipping.










See you in edition #7.....Go the Blues