



Happy New Year
2017

NEWSLETTER

Coming Events details page 2

- 2 Feb General meeting # 529
- 4-5 Feb Swansea Club weekend
- 15 Feb Club outing - Bate Bay
- 17-19 Feb Nowra Sportfishing Convention
- 22 Feb (Wed) Club outing - flathead & whiting
- 26 Feb Club outing - flathead & whiting
- 2 Mar General meeting # 530 with club speaker
- 10-12 Mar Narooma Sportfishing Convention
- 17-19 Mar Sydney Tournament
- 18 Mar Club outing - snapper day
- 22 Mar (Wed) Club outing - Bate Bay
- 5 Apr Club outing-Port Port Hacking
- 6 Apr General meeting # 531

** the complete club calendar is reproduced herein (somewhere) for those who missed out receiving a copy.

Even some more of The EAR

John Mason is presently at Hawks Nest and has been fishing the Myall River upstream from Tea Gardens fishing his secret spot! Whiting to 38 cm and 45 cm fishing the run up tide in less than 30 cm of water with good wind waves over the top. He has been using lures and nippers. He reckons it has been more than 15 years since he last fished this area and his old spots are still working. Now, John, details of the lures used please - with photos of them. John reckons the fresh Myall prawns..... are simply the best.

The forthcoming **club outing to Swansea** will be the clubs 42nd continuous event, the first being in 1975. no wonder fish are scarce—should we now change the month?

Birthday people for February	
3rd John Mason	10th Nicole Rayment
4th Peter Mortel	15th James Rayment
10th Ann Simpson	15th Paul Simpson

Happy Birthday folks—may you have a happy day

The EAR

Congratulations to Margaret McMahon on being awarded an OAM on Australia Day.

Margaret's award is for "services to community health".



Health, through her long commitment to Physical Culture and Scripture Teaching in the public school system. Many times on holidays at South West Rocks, Margaret visited local (and not so local) physical culture clubs to judge events, to advise and to generally encourage youngsters.



Bob and family are justly extremely proud—and so are we Margaret. Well done

And while celebrating you might have noticed **Hartley Giller** had a **BIG** birthday coming up last month. Well he celebrated his **102nd birthday** on 13 January at the Como pub with his children, grandchildren, and great grand children. Congratulations young man. There is a photo of Hartley hereabouts showing his great grandkids of the size of fish he used to catch.

There is not to much activity on the **Zacharias** front—Arthur is laid low with a crook back after all that painting (the painting was in November) and Maria has retired. Congratulations Maria, you deserve it.

Barry Moores is moving to Port Stephens pretty soon—just has to find a house. Hasn't been fishing though. And somehow his email address slipped from the list and no newsletters—all fixed now.

The Worsleys had a fortnight at South West Rocks in December which coincided with all that lousy weather—high seas, high wind and very dirty water. See their report hereabouts.

Sid Young was affected much the same albeit on the south coast. Cold water, high winds and seas. No blackfish just kelpies when he could get out. But managed 13kg prawns on the first night and 3 only on the following night. These are single prawns **not** kg's

Jeff Tabley has not been fishing—laid low with shingles. I thought shingles was an old persons affliction Jeff?

Karen and David Maltby moved into a new house at Batemans Bay just before Christmas. They have been pretty busy moving and settling in to be out fishing. But the EAR has heard that Les Waldock (Narooma Game and Sportfishing Club) has snared Karen and David to be members of Narooma.

Coming Events—the detail

2 Feb General meeting # 529. The evening will be focussed on the immediate outings, choreographed by our own experts:

Swansea 4-5 Feb, yes this coming weekend. Chris and Dennis will give the low down on where to fish for flathead on lures and live bait. Where to catch live bait and the rigs to use. Lures will be discussed. Reports indicate there are good whiting in the warm shallow water. Baits will be discussed and surface poppers will be mentioned. Although mainly fishing from a boat there are many land based opportunities. Bring a pen and paper—this meeting is not to be missed. Maps will be available.

Bate Bay 15 Feb, John Everett will provide the how-to and where-to for this outing.

Nowra 17/19 Feb Nowra ANSA Convention. John Everett while on his feet will continue with the details of this event.

Flathead & whiting days 22 & 26 Feb. Ron will provide the where-to for this event.

Sydney Tournament 17/19 Mar. Peter will be on his feet for the arrangements for this. See flyer hereabouts.

The Sydney Tournament this year is to be open to both ANSA and non ANSA anglers with category award winners to receive cash prizes.

Non ANSA competitors can only contest 'Length Only' section.

SGSFC will cater with a reduced menu requiring a reduced cooking commitment by club members

Entry fees are Adult \$40, Family \$100, Child \$20

The EAR continued

Phil MacDonald reports the bass are starting to school up in the deeper water at Glenbawn and Lake St Clair. However still some on surface lures. Lake Macquarie is a bit slow but with the warmer water there are whiting on the flats. There are still flathead, jew and squid about. Phil says that's me for a while as off to hospital on the 29th to get a new hip. Keep in touch Phil.

The **supertrawler has left Australian waters** (hurrah). However seems a number of the existing larger trawlers have applied to 'pair trawl'. Could be more damaging than the Geelong Star.

Belinda Rayment reports plenty of marlin and mahi mahi off Sydney at the moment, they have made a few trips over the holidays. James tagged a nice striped marlin that measured 2,250mm. A pic with James and the fish is hereabouts.



from our President

Welcome back after the festive season.

At this early stage, 2017 appears to have a number of challenges not only for this club but for other fishing clubs and anglers as we respond to the draft "Threat and Risk Assessment Report for the NSW marine estate". You may recall comments made during 2016 on the Hawkesbury Shelf Biodiversity Region from Newcastle to Shell Harbour south of Wollongong and the establishment of marine reserves and associated restrictions. An initial reading has found a softening of some risks and threats with the inclusion of an additional category within the risk/threat matrix. I will keep you informed of developments as they arise.

Additional to weekend events, a number of mid week activities this year have been scheduled for those who can participate.

It is important to note that subject to prevailing or predicted weather conditions a scheduled fishing activity may need to be cancelled or the day or fishing location changed. An example of this could be for good conditions to exist on a Tuesday ahead of adverse weather and seas on the scheduled Wednesday activity. It is therefore important that our Outings Officer, Ron Camp, be contacted prior on 0402 816 273 to advise of your intended participation so that if a change is to occur you can be advised. The reverse should also apply should you wish to not attend having advised you would.

Our family activity at Maianbar on 15 January was well attended with both children, parents and grandparents enjoying the afternoon. See report elsewhere in newsletter.

A thank you to Andrew, John and Ron for coordinating this activity.

Due to the need to provide detail on more than four club outings and ANSA competitions the initial part of the evening will be allocated to knot tying for different rigs.

I and the committee look forward to meeting and fishing with you during the forthcoming year.

Should you wish to contact me my email address is dlsimpson2@bigpond.com or

mob 0428 887 540.

Dennis

More of THE EAR..

Death of Dick Lewers. Well known to St George Sportfishing Club for his talks to our meetings and for his attendance and guest speaker at the club's 21st birthday.

Dick was a prolific writer for Modern Fishing magazine and presenter at the boat and tackle shows over many years. Dick was the editor of the Australian Sportfishing magazine, first published in 1967. There were only 4 editions leading up to Fishing World magazine taking over.

It was in the Spring Issue 1986 of this magazine that a competition 'Design a Badge' was held—for the Australian National Sportfishing Association. It was won by John Reynolds of Liverpool. The badge remains much the same today.

Dick was a foundation member of ANSA and together with John Bethune and Jack Erskine was instrumental in the establishment of the NSW Branch of ANSA back in August 1967. Dick was awarded with an OAM for his services to recreational fishing and he was one of the earliest Life members of ANSA.

Dick was a walking fountain of knowledge on all things to do with recreational fishing and a prolific writer on topics such as "Knots & Rigs", "How to build a fishing rod" and the series on how to fish "Saltwater", "Freshwater", "Estuaries" and "Bass". Dick also wrote for Fishing World for some 40 years and his column "Ask Dick Lewers" was the bible for every budding recreational fisher of that period. It was the knowledge and helpful advice shared by Dick that provided the inspiration to fish for many generations of recreational fishers and more importantly the skills required to do it well.

Dick lived at Cronulla for many years before moving to Blaxland.

Dick passed away at Taree on 2 Dec 2016, aged 92.

Our Committee

President	Dennis Simpson	9543 0949
V president	Peter Logan	9520 3298
Secretary	John Everett	9522 4808
Treasurer	Chris Holland	9872 5517
Recorder	Belinda Rayment	0407 337 770
Outings	Ron Camp	0402 816 273
Committee	Andrew Perros	
Non Committee;		
Scale verifier	Phil Turner	
Newsletter	Clark Kent (C/-Bill Harvey)	9533 2453

And even more of—THE EAR..



Phil Turner says the fishing has been still up and down with the water temperatures. He has caught a few sharks at Cronulla but very sporadic and only getting one a night, if lucky. He reckons there are lots of Banjo Rays, Eagle Rays and Shovel-nose Rays around. The beaches however have been producing whiting with beach worms but not in large numbers. He has fished Greenhills and Burning Palms with the later producing larger 30cm plus whiting.

He reckons the rocks is short of live bait and that spinning for hours on end for a few small kings, salmon and bonito again not in any numbers. There are some nice squid around if you are early on the rocks. Phil, you are slowing down, I can recall you spinning for hours on end.

The **Agius family** holidayed at Bermagui again this Christmas. Seems they again caught plenty of bream on surface lures. They fished Lake Cuttage this time as well as lake Wallaga .. The largest bream was 37 cm—no 40 cm as last year. In with the bream were flatties in the 40 to 45 cm range. A few other lakes around Bermagui were explored and produced flatties as well. All were on surface lures. Is there is no stopping these boys? And to top it off Ray took wife Rita to Botany Bay for 6 blue swimmers off Towra.

Peter and Deb fished Harrington again this year and at the time of writing they are still there. They reckon the fishing is a bit slow this year mainly due to the cold water. Deb landed 4 flatties to 74 cm and a bream at 39.5 cm (nearly a Masters Deb). Deb was using a full pillie on a bait keeper hook with a pea-sized running sinker. Peter now was dragging the chain and needed to lift his game. He resorted to fishing from a friends boat in the Lansdown River and managed a 87 cm jew on 3kg, casting a soft plastic. Seems he might have been a bit anxious by this stage but managed to get it into gear when cornered. Now Peter what soft plastic please?

Maianbar Fishing Day

This outing kicked off the new year with about 20 members, family and guests enjoying a great day on the water. The event was aimed at introducing new members and their families to yabbing on the sand flats and trying their luck for some whiting as the tide receded.

Great fun was had by all, pumping and gathering the bait and wadding into the shallow water in pursuit of fish. Many small whiting were caught with the children enjoying the outing.

The best fish of the day went to Elih Walker with a 45cm flathead caught at the channel edge on a whiting hook.

All in all, a great family day with many keen young fisher folk ready to try their luck again. See photos hereabouts. John Everett.

Favourite Lures - Phil Turner



Rock fishing

1. **Spanyid 45g** – kingfish, salmon, bonito, tailor. Leavers a bubble trail as it comes to the surface-fast retrieve.
2. **Kato Karnage Topwalker** – kingfish, salmon, bonito. Used when garfish are in season as it mimics an injured gar- slow retrieve. Deadly on kings.
3. **Knight Raiders 25 -60g** – general spinning - kingfish, salmon, tailor, bonito, frigate mackerel.
4. **Lazer slug & Gillies Baitfish 10-20g**
Used when white bait present for all forms of pelagics.

Estuary Fishing

5. **Soft Plastic prawns** – flexible tails.
Drop and lift retrieve. Flathead
6. **Squidgy Fish 80mm Black – Gold.** Drop and lift or slow

Ray and Andrew Agius favourite bream lures



1. (left) zip bait skinny pops
2. (right) sugar pen

Both are surface lures—cast and retrieve



ANSA NSW

www.ansansw.com.au

St George Sportfishing Club is:

affiliated with Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA)

a member of the International Game Fish Association (IGFA)



PO Box 162,
Riverwood, NSW, 2210

President: Dennis Simpson 9543 0949
V. President: Peter Logan 9520 3298
Outings: Ron Camp 0402 816 273
Recorder: Belinda Rayment 0407 337 770

Postal address for Recorder:

PO Box 923

Caringbah NSW 1495



St. George Sportfishing Club Inc.

www.stgeorgesfc.com.au

2017

Club Calendar

Meetings

Date: General meetings are held the first Thursday of every month (except January) at 7.30pm, followed by a suitable guest speaker or presentation.

Venue: St George Masonic Club
86 Roberts Avenue, Mortdale, NSW

To report illegal fishing activity contact your nearest Fisheries Office or phone the Fishers Watch Phone Line on 1800 043 536.

- Jan 15** Club Outing - Beach Fishing
- Jan 28** Club Outing – Kingfishing
- Feb 2** General Meeting & Social Night
- Feb 4-5** Swansea Club Weekend
- Feb 15** Club Outing - Bate Bay
- Feb 17-19** ANSA Nowra Convention
- Feb 22** Club Outing – Flathead & Whiting
- Feb 26** Club Outing – Flathead & whiting
- Mar 2** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- Mar 17-19** ANSA Sydney Convention
- Mar 10-12** ANSA Narooma Convention
- Mar 17-19** ANSA Sydney Convention
- Mar 22** Club Outing – Bate Bay
- April 5** Club Outing – Port Hacking
- April 6** General Meeting & Guest Speaker
- April 22-May 5** Club Outing –South West Rocks

- May 4** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- May 13** Club Outing – Bate Bay
- May 24** Club Outing – Port Kembla
- May 27** Club Outing – Snapper day
- Jun 1** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- Jun 3** Club Outing – Georges River
- Jun 17** Club Outing – Woy Woy/Broken Bay
- Jun 25** Club Outing - Botany Bay
- July 5** Club Outing - Woronora
- July 6** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- July 15** Club Outing – Shell Harbour
- July 26** Club Outing - Botany Bay
- Aug 7** StGSFC Presentation Night
- Aug 9** Club outing – Georges River
- Aug 19** Club Outing – Whiting Night
- Aug 26** ANSA Presentation Night

- Sept TBA** OARS Picnic
- Sept 7** StGSFC AGM
- Sept 8-15** Club Outing – Sussex Inlet Classic 9th
- Sept 20** Club Outing - Botany Bay
- Oct 4** Club outing – Brooklyn
- Oct 5** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- Oct 14** Club Outing - Windang
- Oct 25** Club Outing - Bate Bay
- Nov 2** General Meeting & Club Speaker
- Nov 4** Club Outing – Lake Illawarra Prawnning
- Nov 11** Club Outing – Bream Day
- Nov 18** Club Outing – Georges River Mulloway Night
- Nov 29** Club Outing – Bellambi
- Dec 7** Club Christmas Social and Raffle Night

Activities & dates may be subject to change.
If you are attending an outing, please contact the Outings Officer prior to the event.



CLUB RECORDER'S REPORT - January 2017



January

Certificates awarded at December meeting, events between 19 November and 26

Congratulations to Deborah Logan on her **Masters capture** last month:

Debbie Logan – All Tackle Species – Yellowfin Bream #6 405mm CAA pts 5
 Debbie Logan – All Tackle Species – Australian Salmon #5 640mm CAA pts 5

CHAMPION ANGLER AWARD 2016/17 - END JANUARY							
MENS		LADIES		JUNIORS		Non-NSW	
Peter Logan	10	Debbie Logan	20	no entries	-	no entries	-
Ray Agius	4	Belinda Rayment	16				
Brad Sutton	3						
Trevor Dean	3						

You can upgrade entries in our length only competition at any time during the year, so make sure you notify me of any captures of our target species of Flathead, Snapper, Salmon, Bream, Whiting or Tailor.

DIVISION 1 - LENGTH ONLY COMPETITION - 2016/17				Updated as at: 26/1/2017
Angler	Best Flathead - Length (mm)	Best Snapper - Length (mm)	Best Salmon - Length (mm)	Combined length (mm)
Debbie Logan	550	-	640	1,190
Peter Logan	420	-	655	1,075
John Everett	650	310	-	960
Trevor Dean	590	370	-	960
Phil Worsley	760	-	-	760
Dennis Simpson	-	-	620	620
Bob McMahon	580	-	-	580
Eva Peros	410	-	-	410
Alessia Robles	400	-	-	400
Leon Peros	390	-	-	390
Peter Hewitt	380	-	-	380

DIVISION 2 - LENGTH ONLY COMPETITION - 2016/17				Updated as at: 26/1/2017
Angler	Best Bream - Length (mm)	Best Whiting - Length (mm)	Best Tailor - Length (mm)	Combined length (mm)
Peter Logan	380	-	380	760
Debbie Logan	410	-	330	740
Bob McMahon	-	-	460	460
Brendan McMahon	-	-	440	440
Andrew Perros	-	420	-	420
Brad Sutton	390	-	-	390
John Everett	370	-	-	370
Annamaria Robles	-	370	-	370
Trevor Dean	320	-	-	320
Antonio Robles	-	280	-	280
George Peros	260	-	-	260

Please send all claim forms to me at PO Box 923, Caringbah NSW 1495 or belinda.rayment@bigpond.com

Belinda



Final report on Carp herpes virus project released

The Phase 3 report of the Carp herpes virus project has been released/ This project determined that Cyprinid



herpesvirus-3 could be effective as a management option for European carp, which was fundamental in the formation of

the Australian Government funded National Carp Control Plan. The report highlights the extensive amount of research that has gone into this program, and makes for good reading if you're interested in the science behind the carp virus. [You can read at this link.](#)

Further to concerns in recent years about the **rainbow trout fishery in Lakes Jindabyne and Eucumbene**, Steve Samuels advised that based on wide consultations, in his opinion whilst there has been an improvement in Lake Eucumbene, the Lake Jindabyne rainbow trout fishery is in decline as indicated by the fact that only 69 rainbow trout were trapped for breeding at Gaden in the recent spawn run. He complimented Fisheries on their proposal to increase the stocking of rainbow trout from 50,000 to 90,000 and reduce by half the stocking brook trout and Atlantic salmon by half to reduce competition faced by the rainbow trout. Should this proposal proceed, rainbow trout allocations to some other impoundments would have to be reduced.

The two articles above are from the Jan 2017 **Freshwater Fisher**.

New fishing platforms on the way



Check out the progress on the new recreational fishing platform in South West Rocks, being constructed in Back Creek.

The platform should be finished in time for Christmas so if you're in the area these December holidays, go check it out.

And for locals and holiday makers a little further north, check out the new fishing platform at Nambucca Heads. This project is being carried out by the Lions Club of Nambucca Heads at ANZAC Park. This one is also planned to be finished by Christmas.

These fishing platforms provide safe, level access for fishing and encourage less experienced fishers, people in wheelchairs or with prams, people with young kids etc to have a go at fishing. This is your fishing licence at work!

Funds from the Recreational Fishing Trust are being utilised all over NSW to build these fishing platforms. Fishing platforms are being constructed at Emu Plains, Gundagai, Forbes, Bawley Point, Nelson Bay, Lake Oberon, Moruya, South Durras, Lake Cathie and Culcairn over the next 12 months. Anyone can apply for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts, including fishing clubs and organisations, universities, councils, community groups and individuals.

Happy New Year
2017



“ Listen to Grandpa kids—when I was a young fellow like you we caught fish like this, using a bent pin and worms.”

Hartley at his 102nd birthday

The Agius boys with bream on poppers, Bermagui



Dad

Andrew
(looks bigger
than dad's)



James Rayment with his striped marlin-1250mm release
nice one James



And from left field—Max found this in the Newcastle Herald 1/12/16. Paul Lennon's one meter flathead from the Karuah River.

Should we relocate Swansea to the Karuah?

HARRINGTON

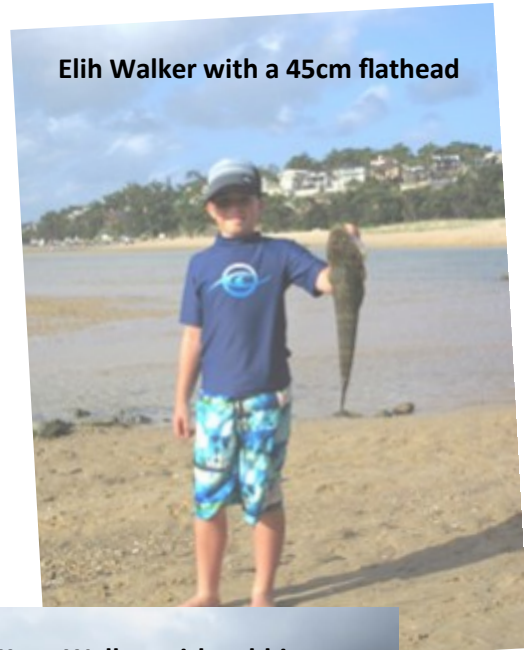
Happy New Year
2017

Deb Logan's catch not bad eh?



MAIANBAR OUTING

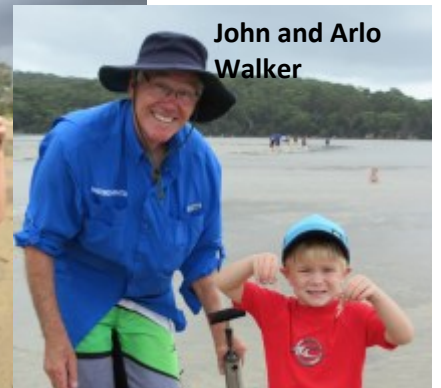
Elih Walker with a 45cm flathead



Kyan Walker with yabbies



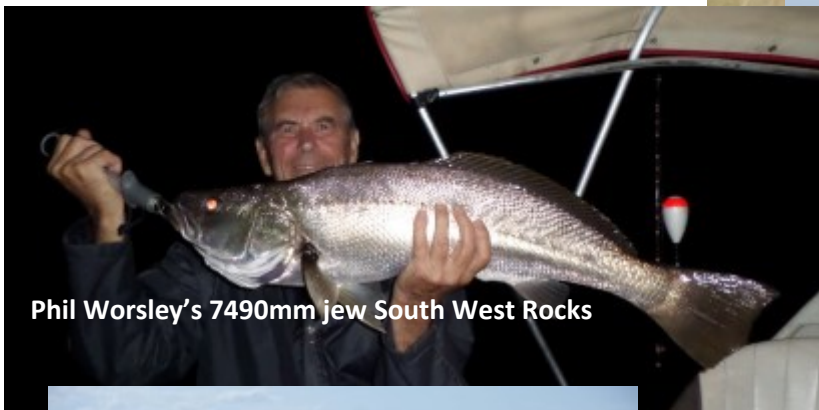
John and Arlo Walker



Peter Logan's 82 cm at Harrington



Phil Worsley's 7490mm jew South West Rocks



Nice calm day—South West Rocks



There's one—where 'd go?

St Geo SFC	Scales			Mth verified	Mth verified	Mth verified	Verified
SCALE No.	TYPE	WEIGHT CLASS	MEMBER	2015	2016	2017	
4	Berkley Dig.	23	B Moores	Dec			
12	Salter	0-100	P Worsley	July	August		YES
14	Capacity	0-5	P Turner	March	August		YES
15	Salter	100	R Camp	May	August		YES
21	Salter	10	L Anderson				
24	Wedderburn	100	B Rayment	Sept.			
27	Salter	20	P Hewitt	July	June		YES
28	Salter	25	P McDonald	July	August		YES
29	Salter	10	P McDonald	July	August		YES
31	Chatillon	7.5	D Rayment				
32	Salter	20	A Zacharias				
33	Salter	0-22	P Mortel	Aug.			
36	Salter	3	B Sutton				
38	Salter	10	P Mortel	Nov.			
40	Super Samson	0-1	Sid Young		Feb.		YES
41	Salter	15	R Agius	Nov.			
42	Salter	3	R Agius	Nov.			
44	Top Catch	3	W Lamotte				
45	Capacity	10	W Lamotte				
49	Super Samson	0-10	Sid Young		Feb.		YES
50	Super Samson	0-2	Sid Young		Feb.		YES
51	Super Samson	0-10	Sid Young		Feb.		YES
54	Rapala Dig.	25	P Turner	March	August		YES
57	Rapala Dig.	50	B McMahon	Sept.			
58	Berkley Dig.	0-23	P Worsley	June	August		YES
59	Little Sampson	0-6					
61	Rapala Dig.	25	R Agius	Nov.			YES
62	Rapala Dig.	25	P Logan	Nov.			YES
63	Rapala Dig.	25	P Logan	Nov.			YES
64	Rapala Dig.	25	B Harvey				
65	Rapala Dig.	25	B Rayment	Sept			YES
66	Rapala Dig.	25	D Rayment		Nov		YES
68	Rapala Dig.	0-8	B Sutton				
70	Rapala Dig.	0-8	G Daniels				
73	Rapala Dig.	0-25	C Holland	Nov.			
78	Berkley Dig.	0-14	N Wilson				
79	Rapala Dig.	0-25	A Zac	July			
80	Rapala Dig.	0-25	D Simpson		May		Yes
84	Rapala Dig.	0-25	P Logan	Nov.			
85	Berkley Dig.	0-14	D Maltby				
86	Rapala Dig.	0-25	J Tabley				
87	Okuma	0-25	E Dhyon				
88	Rapala Dig.	0-25	D & K Maltby	March	Feb.		YES
89	No Name	0-15	Ron Camp	Sept.	Sep		YES
90	Berkley Dig.	0-50	E Dhyon				
92	Rapala Dig.	0-20	B Rayment				
93	Weiheng	0-25	P Turner		Aug		YES
94	Weiheng	0-25	R Camp		Aug		YES
95	Weiheng	0-25	D & K Maltby				
96	Weiheng	0-25	D & K Maltby		Feb.		YES
97	Weiheng	0-25	D & K Maltby				
98	Weiheng	0-25	D & K Maltby		Feb.		YES
99	Weiheng	0-25	B Harvey	Oct.			YES
101	No Name		P Worsley	Sept	Sept		YES
102	Black magic	0-25	A Perros				
103	Weiheng	0-25	B Rayment				
104	Weiheng	0-25	B McMahon		June		YES
111	Weiheng	0-40	R Camp		August		YES

Happy New Year 2017

THE FIRST & THE BEST
IN MICRO JIGGING RODS AND LURES

ANSA NSW Summer SLAM Convention Series

Fish all 3 ANSA NSW Summer Conventions, register just one capture in each convention and go in the draw to win a complete micro-jigging outfit valued at \$750.00

Summer Slam Dates;
 Nowra Convention 17,18,19 February
 Narooma Convention 10,11,12 March
 Sydney Convention 17,18,19 March

ANSA AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION

Rapala STORM GOMOKU

Welcome to the ANSA NSW Summer SLAM Promotion!

Want to win a \$750 micro jigging outfit complete with rod, reel, braid, jigs, hat and jumper?

Then all you have to do is fish the three (3) ANSA NSW summer conventions which are Nowra, Narooma and Sydney and enter a fish in each convention, including catch and release to go in the draw to win this great prize.

You must be an ANSA NSW member to be eligible.

Cost is FREE to be part of this promotion, so get fishing the ANSA NSW summer conventions and let ANSA NSW do the rest.

Waterbird Of The Month



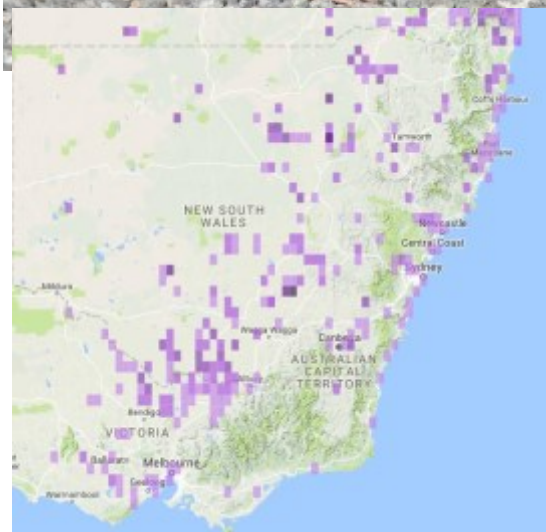
Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

Appearance. An elegant looking brown Duck with an upright stance and long pink legs. The bill is patchy pink and brown, the sides of the chest are reddish brown with fine dark barring. The most distinctive feature is a set of a dozen or so upright cream plumes on the flanks.

Habitat and range. Northern and eastern Australia. The eBird map below shows the distribution in SE Aust. Found on vegetated wetlands, irrigated fields (esp. rice), pastures, sewerage ponds, grain stubble etc. Small groups to flocks of up to 5000. During the day they congregate on the margins of water bod-ied to sleep and preen, flying out at night, sometimes long distances, to feed on grasslands.

Breeding. August to October in the southeast, Jan to March in the north. The nest is a shallow scrape sparsely lined with grass and plant stems, located in long grass or shrubs, near or far from water. Clutch size 10-12 eggs. Incubation 30 days.

Feeding. Mainly grass and aquatic vegetation.



Roger Giller