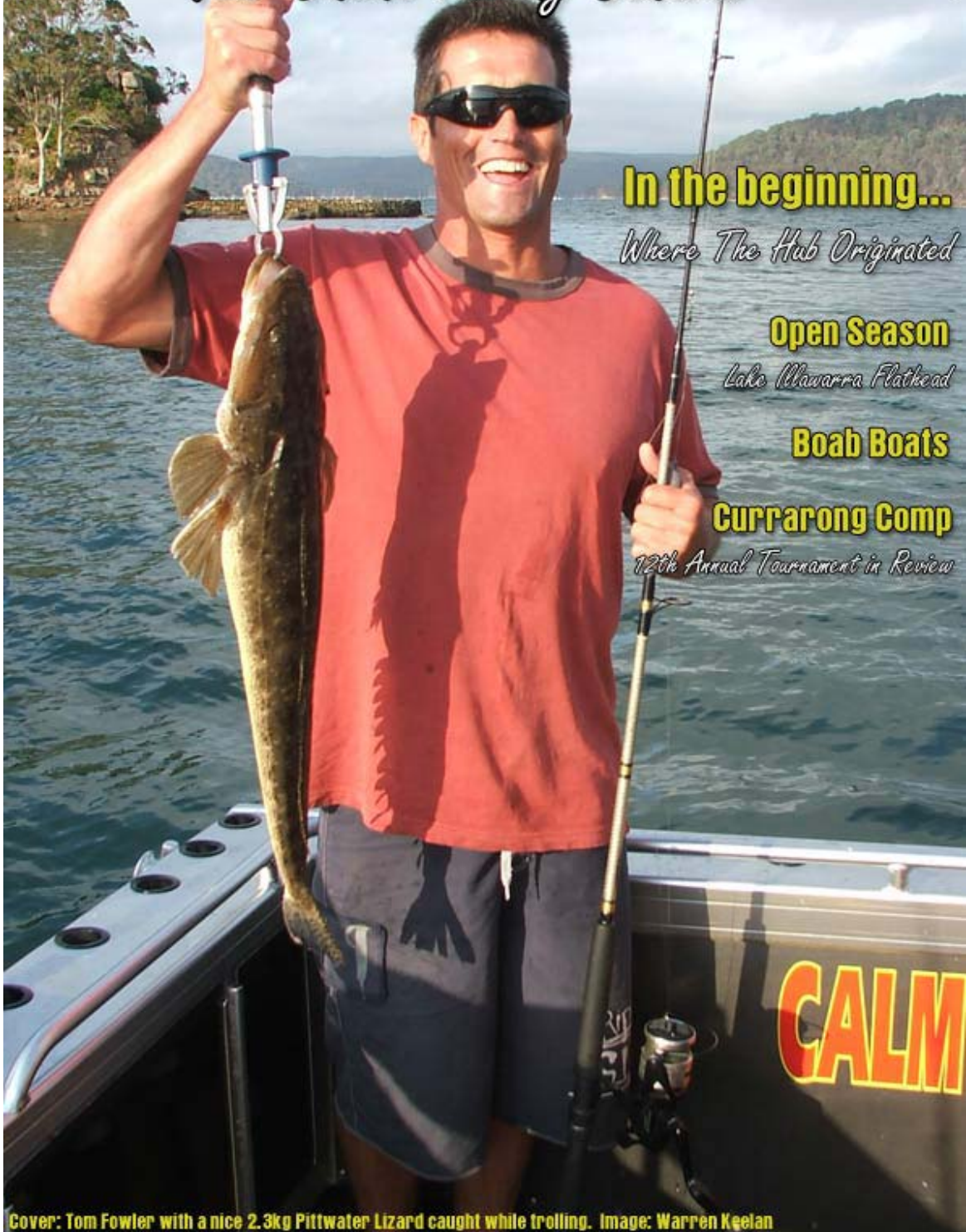




The Fishin Hub Newsletter

Your Online Fishing Central

ISSUE #1 2007



In the beginning...

Where The Hub Originated

Open Season

Lake Illawarra Flathead

Boab Boats

Curarong Comp

12th Annual Tournament in Review

Cover: Tom Fowler with a nice 2.3kg Pittwater Lizard caught while trolling. Image: Warren Keelan

www.thefishinhub.com.au



Open Season

Lake Illawarra Flathead

By Travis (Munga) Munro

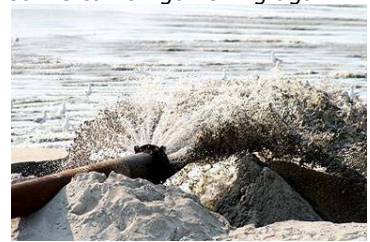
It most certainly seems like Lake Illawarra had been the place to be if you were in the hunt for a feed of Flathead. The dredging machine had stirred something inside the fish that made them want to congregate in the vicinity. Was it the abundance of food that this machine is churning out, or could it be something else?

A fellow fisherman brought up something that hadn't actually occurred to me. And that is the flathead have all converged on the area as they have sensed the movement in the water and are under the false pretence that the lake has opened and the tide is running out. Flathead enter the open ocean to spawn, so all these fish that were being caught could be specimens waiting to make that trip. Could this be true? Are we doing more harm to the species numbers in Lake Illawarra than we know? We could be!

With winter rapidly approaching it won't be long now though before the Flathead get a well deserved reprieve from the onslaught they've endured this summer. Let's hope they can replenish their numbers easily enough ready for another assault next season.

We here at The Fishin Hub encourage all members to contribute and participate in any segments of the site, so please feel free to say your piece in the forum on any subject you choose.

Remember to only take what you need, always leave some for another day so we can all go fishing again.



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In the beginning.....

It all originated quite a few years ago. Not only being the best of friends, we also share a passion for the same sport. Fishing.

"One day we'll open up a tackle shop in a nice coastal town. We'll call it Bung & Munga's Let's Talk Tackle. The wives can work part time if they wish and we'll pass the time in the shop. As long as it pays the bills and we get to fish a bit, we'll be right. We might even make a fishin video, the Do's and Don'ts of fishing. We'll film me with all the Do's and you for all the Don'ts". It was all a pipe dream but an enjoyable one to have a laugh at.

A couple of years ago Warren (my partner and backbone of our venture) had a change in professions, which enabled him to gain experience in website designing and constructing.

With this change came a new line of thinking to our "pipe dream". Let's construct a fishing central on the net. Unlike others we were adamant about promoting the NSW South Coast (SC). Our own backyard.

With a lot of planning and many hours of groundwork, we've managed to finish initial construction where not only anglers, but also anyone who has an interest in the outdoors can jump on the Internet and check out what's been happening in their own backyard too. Or for those wishing to visit the area a facility to get up to date news and forecasts, what's being caught, where to stay and whom to get the right gear from.

Both being keen fishermen (albeit not very proficient), we hope to not only promote the businesses of the SC through our directory, but to educate the anglers on sustainability. Plan for tomorrow, not just today. Leave some for another day. Let the next generation experience the joys of fishing.

We are fortunate enough to live in a country still in its infancy, where a lot of the natural habitat is yet to be stained. Here on the South Coast we have access to some of the most magnificent stretches of coastline and pristine waterways seen on the planet. The NSW South Coast has been a "Mecca" for anglers for many decades, but other than a few vids or the odd mag article, we don't really have anything dedicated specifically for us.

Which takes us to where Warren and I find ourselves today. **The Fishin Hub** (TFH) was eventually born and we have received an overwhelming response of support from the locals and businesses telling us it's long overdue that the SC finally has a facility of its own. www.thefishinhub.com.au

A great feature of **The Fishin Hub** is it's all free. Members can log into the Forum and post new topics, or reply to frequently asked questions by other anglers. Upload a picture of their prized catch and do a bit of bragging. We also have a classifieds section which is free to members to advertise anything they wish to buy or sell.



Travis (Munga) & Warren (Bung) from The Fishin Hub.

Another new segment, which is unique to **The Fishin Hub**, is the ability to upload some short video footage of your prized catch. It's amazing what footage can be captured by a camera or even mobile phones these days. The great thing is that we provide step-by-step instructions on how to do this. If you have any trouble then just drop us a line or send us your footage and we'll see what we can do for you.

We have set the wheels in motion to officially launch the site in April with our inaugural competition. We are planning to hold many of these comps to give away products to our members, ranging from magazine subscriptions, DVD's to a large range of fishing products.

For more info log onto www.thefishinhub.com.au and follow the prompts. We look forward to having you aboard and don't forget to tell all your buddies about us. Take care, and good fishin.

Team HUB

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CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ONBOARD

Currarong Open 2007

Imagine a place where only a short walk from your car will take you to some of the most pristine views on the NSW coast, and a fishing persons paradise. That place exists; Currarong.

Currarong's fishing is among the best on the NSW coast. It is the closest landing point to the world famous Banks, where numerous Australian records have been taken in the game fishing scene. Currarong is also well known for land based game fishing where Marlin, Yellow Fin Tuna and big Kingfish are taken from the rocks on live bait every year. Not to mention the succulent table fish species including Flathead, Bream, Whiting, Snapper and Black Fish.

The Fishin Hub was lucky enough to cover this years Currarong Fishing Club's annual competition, where keen anglers made the pilgrimage from afar to test their skills and knowledge in this fisherpersons paradise. With over 100 entries in this years affair, Paul Reid, Wayne Watling and everyone involved from the Currarong club must be congratulated on how well organised and smooth everything ran. It was fantastic to see not only the amount of men, but also women and kids taking part.

Mother nature certainly turned on a belter for the weekend. Blue skies and light winds greeted the large contingent that made the journey from as far as Goulburn, Boorowa, Sydney, Wollongong and the far south coast. With water temps still around the 20-22 degree mark, there was sure to be plenty of fish on the menu.

Most notable of these catches were Hans Dean's bag of Blackfish on Saturday, the overall size and numbers of Bream (average of 0.9kg) and Pete Oberg's Longfin Tuna caught off the rocks was a standout. The first Blue-Fin weighed on the clubs scales for some time.



Peter Oberg with 2 decent blues caught off the rocks.



Sean Wear (left) with a great catch of Dolphin Fish.
Mitchell Preston (right) with a fine Salmon and Tailor.

Shaun Wear's 1.2kg Dolphin fish was also a great catch, Mark Strutt landed a nice 4.1kg Kingie and Jim Bezzina's 10.5kg Blue Groper was an absolute screamer.

With so much positive feed back Paul Reid rates this years event as the best so far.

"The quality of fishing was unbelievable, as you can see by what's been weighed in. Huge thanks must go to everyone who took part and Shimano for donating some great prizes. They are definitely a major draw card for these types of events".

The Fishin Hub once again thanks Currarong Club for this opportunity and anticipate the 2008 event to be even bigger. Remember to only take what you need, leave some for another day so we can all go fishing again.

2007 Champions were:

Junior Beach - Daniel Wilton
Junior Estuary - Coby Pascoe
Junior Rock - John Hardy
Junior Deep Sea - Peter Dowse
Junior Blue Water - Shaun Wear
Estuary Champion - Wal Balzan
Deep Sea - Jim Bezzina
Beach - Ray Smith
Rock - Peter Oberg
Blue Water - Mark Strutt
Champion Girl - Emma Young Whitford
Champion Boy - Daniel Wilton
Champion Lady - Julie Gornall
Champion Gent - Peter Ober

Travis (Munga) Munro Team Hub

