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Issue 4 January 2017

Nelson Dawnbreakers Fishing Club

## CLUB UPDATE.....from the committee

### SEASON EVENTS

**Sunday, 12th February**  
Social Afternoon 3-5pm

**Saturday, 18th February**  
DNA Snapper Cup

**Sunday, 5th March**  
Social Afternoon 3-5pm

**10th—12th March**  
Havelock Weekend

**8th—9th April**  
Okiwi Bay Weekend

**Sunday, 23rd April**  
Social Afternoon 3-5pm

**13th—14th May**  
D'urville Island Weekend

**Sunday, 21st May**  
Social Afternoon 3-5pm

**Saturday, 17th June**  
Prize Giving

It looks like 2017 has snuck upon us while we weren't looking. Most of us are already back to work with the holiday season nothing but a memory. Hopefully some of you managed to spend some time out on the water, making the most of this beautiful spot of paradise we call home.

The fishing has continued to perform with some good size snapper entering the club competition. Remember to enter your fish into the clubs annual fishing competition as this also gives you a chance to win some of the monthly prizes at our social club days. If you are new to the club check out the competition page <http://dawnbreakers.co.nz/comp.php> or email us with any questions.

This year the club will hold the first DNA Snapper Cup fishing competition on the 18<sup>th</sup> February. This is a one day fishing comp for club members and it's proudly sponsored by DNA Boats. We already have \$6000.00 worth of prizes lined up and there is more to come. Register now as this is an event not to be missed [http://dawnbreakers.co.nz/snapper\\_cup.php](http://dawnbreakers.co.nz/snapper_cup.php)

In our last newsletter we told you about the Nelson Bays Dive Club joining the Dawnbreakers. Since we already have a dive section we are now working on integrating more diving events and also to make use of Downtime, a 590 Osprey boat owned by the Dive Club. Downtime will take part in the Snapper Cup and there are 3 seats left for members. If you are a club member and you don't have a boat then book your seat now by emailing us [mail@dawnbreakers.co.nz](mailto:mail@dawnbreakers.co.nz)

We are also aiming to involve Downtime in more club events and to make her available for hire to club members, if you are keen to participate let us know.

Our next Club Social Day is on the 12<sup>th</sup> February at the City Club. Sean from Fluid Electronics will be our guest speaker talking boat electronics. Captain Reid will brief us on the upcoming Snapper Cup with a local fishing update and to hand out the new Hotspot details.

***Tight Lines***

# MONTHLY SOCIALS.....

Congratulations to our winning members from the December and January social afternoons.

Decembers social afternoon was a great time for members to catch up before the Christmas holidays on all the fishing news.

Captain Reid was once again very informative on fishing around the Nelson region and members Dan & Brian showed us some stunning footage of their recent charter trip on 'Hellraiser 2' in Cairns.

We even had a surprise visit from a very generous Santa who came and handed out presents to members.

*As some of the photos on Facebook show we are 'never' to old to sit on Santa's knee!*



Congratulations to our **December Spot Prize winners ...**  
**"His/Hers Dirty Dog Sunglasses"** Domink Berghamer & Marilyn O'Connor  
**& Kids Rocket Eyeware"** Eden Rose & Bradley Elvines

## January Spot Prize

High output emergency jump starter that will start petrol and diesel engines several times when fully charged. The 12000mAh lithium battery allows charging of phones, tablets, digital cameras etc. while on the move.

Battery capacity: 12000mAh

Jump start output: 12V, 200A Start/400A Peak

Starts most cars and outboard motors up to 90HP

Charging time: 4 hours

Charging source: 240V or 12V (adapters included)

High intensity LED torch offers up to 120 hours of continuous lighting

Kit includes charging adaptors for common phones and laptops, jump start leads and 12/240V recharging adaptors for the unit



The Fensoms were the winning family of the January Spot Prize the **"Jump Start & Power Bank Kit"**

.....  
 Lucky hook number  
 15 from the Kontiki  
 demonstration at  
 Rabbit Island.



Novembers **"Fish of the Month"** trophy was awarded to two members, Alan Rose for a 75cm Snapper and Reid Forrest for a 125cm Kingfish.

Decembers **"Fish of the Month"** trophy was awarded to Johnathon Claridge, who caught his first snapper over 20 pounds!!



Novembers **\$100.00 BigBlue Voucher** was won by Tracey Meek ..... entered a nice kawhai caught in the Tasman Bay.

Decembers **\$100.00 Big Blue Voucher** was won by Eden Rose..... a nice Marlborough Sounds Blue Cod caught over the Christmas holidays.

**Remember**—every member who enters a fish each month will go into a draw to win a spot prize of a **\$100.00 Big Blue Dive & Fish** or a **\$100.00 Burnsco Voucher!!**

**"Lucky Member Draws"** for December of \$100.00 was won by Andrea Fensom — and January was Andrew Strand —not struck, so Februarys social afternoon will jackpot to \$100.00 — must be there to win the cash!!



# MEMBERS PHOTOS.....

Send your fish photos to [fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz](mailto:fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz)



Nice Snapper Chris!!



Delwyn's First Snapper



Chris's John Dory



**THIS IS A FOR SURE SIGN IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD DAY FISHING.**



Welcome to "The 20 Pound Club" Johnathon!!



Junior Member Jaz's First Snapper!!



Marlborough Sounds View!!



Lenny's Saturday morning fish!!



Find us on:  
**facebook**®

## SHARE PHOTOS YOU HAVE TAKEN

If you have photos of you or your family out fishing we'd love to see them. They don't have to be just you holding a fish, they could be other images you see while out on the water.

Don't forget to add a few brief details about the photo.



Carrots for dinner?

## KONTIKI DEMONSTRATION .....

We were lucky to have club member, Andrew come along and demonstrate and share his knowledge on Kontiki fishing. The weather played its part by providing us with a stunning summers day and no wind.



One of our members suggested "why don't you have a spot prize for the hook that catches the biggest fish?" So, all 25 hooks (you can put out less) were allocated to a family then baited with a mixture of crab, squid and bonito (having a good mixture of baits will result in a mixed bag of fish). Hooks were carefully attached to the longline and launched out to sea (approx. 800-900m offshore) for around one hour to bob around doing its stuff. During this time members surf casted, sat back, talked fishing and enjoyed the surroundings while the children swam and played in the sand.

Then it was time to bring in the line. There was anticipation for the upcoming catch as we watched Andrew retrieve the line with members waiting to see if they had the lucky hook that would be sliding across the sand with a snapper on. Unfortunately our catch of the day was 6 baby sharks, but hey we all know that's fishing!! As all of our catch of the day was around the same size, we put all hook numbers that caught fish into a draw for the spot prize - congratulations to the Fensom's, winning hook number 15!!

Interested in purchasing one call in and see Andrew at Hunting & Fishing who is more than happy to organize a demo outing.

A great alternative for families or someone who doesn't own a boat.

***The kontiki demonstrated was a Seahorse Standard 46lb Thrust Electric Package. There are different powered kontikis available, some with more powerful motors, auto pilot systems and more lightweight versions also with manual/electric winches and a range of accessories.***



*Did you know?* The early kontiki units had many interesting systems to improve their performance. These included using barley sugar sweets (a hard boiled sweet) as timers, and dropping sails to make the retrieval easier. The sweets would slowly dissolve in the water and once dissolved, the Kontiki sail would drop sometimes releasing a weight to anchor the fishing line once the wind powered Kontiki was well offshore. However there was always the problem with the kids eating the sweets on the way to the beach.

## CLUB POLOS, HOODIES and now CAPS.....



Club apparel for sale!

**Polos \$ 45.00**

**Hoodies \$ 65.00**

and

**Children's V-Neck Shirts \$30.00**

and

**Caps \$20.00**



Order yours today at: [fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz](mailto:fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz)



**AWARD**

**FISHING MOMENTS THAT YOU WOULD RATHER FORGET, BUT WE LOVE TO SHARE!**

Taliskers rival, Captain Dan and his crew (*who were currently on dry land until the new boat arrived*) were invited for a fishing trip aboard the Talisker by Captain Mike.

As we know your Spot X's are top secret and all crew members are sworn to secrecy so Captain Mike dispatched the crew into a inflatable with a spear gun into a secluded bay so he could head out for a bit of fishing at Spot X.

When Captain Mike finally came back to pick them up he found the inflatable had been speared with the spear gun..... Bugger 'Baz' or was it Bugger 'Spear gun Sally'?

The word out on the street is it even took him 3 shots to hit it.

Tune in next month as we here that the inflatable was only patched up last week..... Captain Mike and Robbie do you have a story to tell?

**If you have any fishing moments to share: [fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz](mailto:fish@dawnbreakers.co.nz)**



## "CATCH A MATE" LIST ....



"Catch a mate" this is intended to connect new and old members who would like to be out fishing with other club members. If you are keen to go fishing on someone else's boat or would like to have some company on your boat, email us your details and we put them in the newsletter.

## PLANT AND FOOD—SNAPPER RELEASE

In December several members of the Dawnbreakers Fishing Club were invited by Plant and Food Nelson to attend the release of the final 4000 juvenile snapper into Tasman Bay.

The snapper had been reared by Plant and food to a size of around 100-120mm over the previous 12 months, and were notably larger than releases in previous years, hopefully leading to a much greater survival rate. Previous years releases of fish between 40-60mm in size had been actively predated upon by large schools of kahawai and seabirds upon release, but larger juveniles did not suffer the same fate.

Plant and Food scientists raise the juveniles from eggs spawned by the mature broodstock fish that live at the hatchery which comprise about 15 large adult snapper in the 12 to 18 pound range.

Amazingly this relatively small group of broodstock can produce over 300 kg of snapper eggs per year. Juvenile snapper are just one of a number of species that Plant and food are able to successfully breed and rear at their new facility at the end of the Nelson marina, with the juvenile fish often acting as the 'lab-rats' for marine and food scientists to study what factors affect growth rates and to trial new formulations of feed, as well as many other interesting studies. A significant amount of work in recent years has also gone into using the unique patterns of spots on the side of a snapper as a type of biometric marker. Each fish has a unique pattern of spots much like a fingerprint in humans, so an image taken of a fish as a juvenile can be matched back to that same fish as it grows allowing accurate recording of individual growth rates. As this technique becomes even more refined there may be the opportunity for all juvenile snapper released into Tasman Bay (and other areas) to be 'fingerprinted' and fisherman catching the fish later in its life can take a photo and find out how old the fish is and where it was originally raised and released. Currently the hatchery reared snapper can be relatively easily distinguished from snapper born in the wild by the presence of fused nostrils in hatchery fish (see the factsheet later in newsletter).

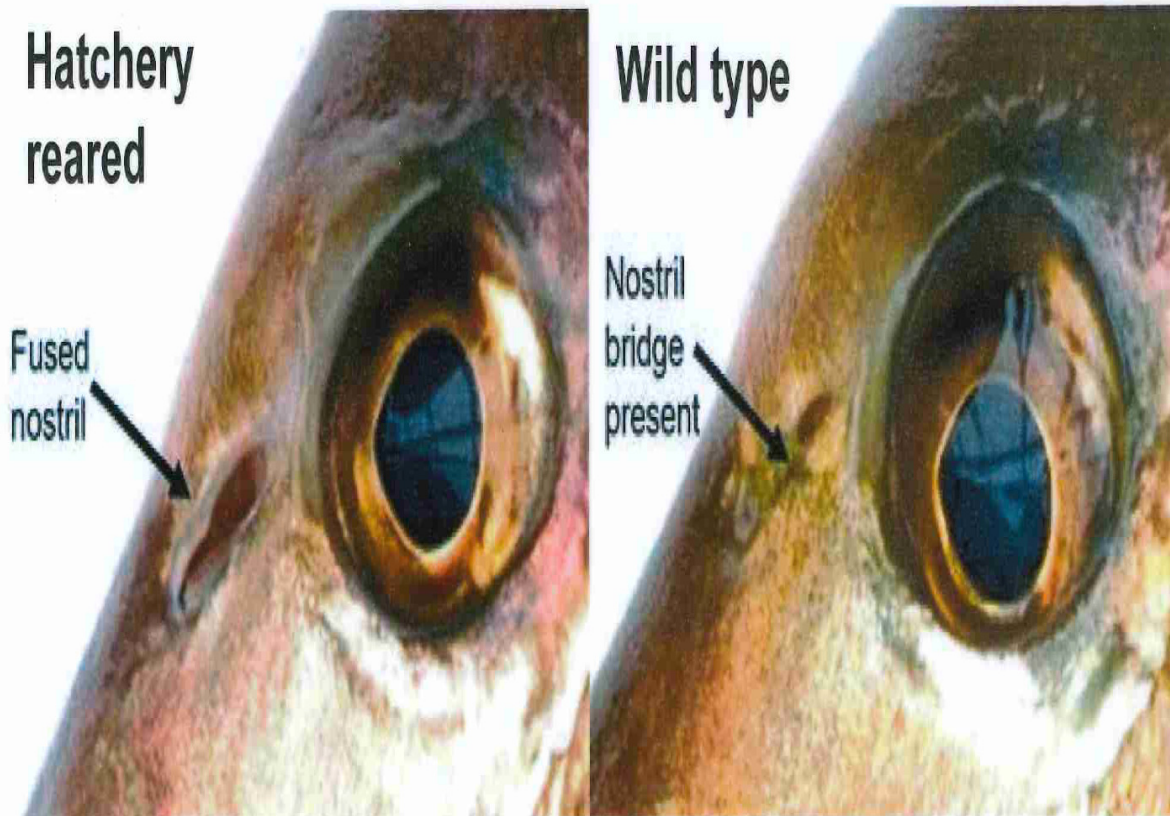
So next time you catch a fish in the bay check out the nostrils and if it's a hatchery fish then measure the fish (length and weight if possible), take a good photo, and let someone on the committee know, as Plant and Food would love to know where the fish are ending up and how they are growing in the wild.

The final group of fish that we saw being released were part of a total of over 42000 snapper released in 2016 and if they survive all the hurdles that living in the wild throws at them they should reach minimum legal size within three to five years. Plant and Food have been releasing their excess juvenile snapper almost annually since around 2007, so there may be some fairly good sized snapper out there which were once swimming around the hatchery as babies. So have a look back at old photos and see if you can find any fish with a fused nostril.

We are currently in negotiations with Plant and Food about the possibility of taking a larger group of Dawnbreakers members for a tour of the hatchery so watch the emails and newsletters for updates. Or just ask Jason Elvines to bust open the gate for you.



# How to differentiate hatchery reared snapper from wild snapper



Snapper reared in a culture environment have a morphometric signature that enables us to differentiate these snapper from their wild counterparts. This signature is present in their nostrils, and is a result of high density rearing in hatchery environments. Hatchery reared snapper have nostrils that are fused into one large passage on one, or both, sides of the head. Wild born snapper have two smaller, discrete, nasal passages on each side of the head. The same morphological signature has been used in Japanese red sea bream re-stocking programmes since the 1990's.

# NELSON BAYS DIVE CLUB

The Nelson Bays Dive Club was started by a group of young and not so young enthusiastic divers in June 1997.

These founding members (fossils) enjoyed the camaraderie, friendship, humour and competitive nature of trips they shared together and thought they should form an official club for others to share in their adventures.

A wide range of age and experience is represented in the club.

The youngest member is 17, while the oldest qualifies for Grey Power.

The club currently has qualified open water, dive masters, and a rescue diver in its ranks. We have something for everyone, from newbie's who want to learn to dive, to people wishing to further their local dive knowledge and experience.

We have our own Club Boat *Downtime* which is a 595 Osprey, equipped with VHF, 115HP Mercury and 9.9 auxiliary, 120 litre under floor fuel tank.

This boat will be made available to Dawn Breakers Members following a safety induction by authorised NBDC member.

More details on this in next month's newsletter which will also include dates on proposed dive trips.

We look forward to participating on club outings and sharing tall aquatic tales whether they are caught rods or on the end of a spear or line.



**CLUB SPONSORS...** Support them where you can!





# DNA SNAPPER CUP ..... BIG one day fishing competition!!



Our first Annual Snapper Cup will be held on **Saturday, 18th February 2017.**

This event is a one day fishing competition for club members and its going to be big!

[So, get registered now! http://dawnbreakers.co.nz/snapper\\_cup.php](http://dawnbreakers.co.nz/snapper_cup.php)



# Snapper Cup

**Big One Day Fishing Competition**

**Feb 18th 2017, Tasman Bay**

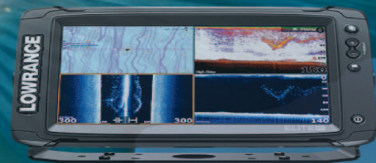
**Over \$6000 worth of prizes**

**Adult and Junior sections**

**FREE competition entry for new members!**

1st Prize:

Lowrance Elite 9  
worth \$1849



Start time: 5am

Weigh in time: 3-5pm

BBQ time: 5-6pm

Prize giving at: 6:30pm

Event Location: City Club Nelson, 1 Kinzett Tce

Visit our website for more details!



[www.dawnbreakers.co.nz](http://www.dawnbreakers.co.nz)



REGISTER  
ONLINE