



## **APRIL NEWSLETTER**

Next Meeting **Tuesday** 4th APRIL

**7pm Beenligh Bowls Club**

**11 Hanover St, Beenligh**

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**Please note, our meeting night has been changed to the first Tuesday of the month**

### **Next Meeting**

With a southern bay trip coming up, local guru, Kev Ford will be giving an overview on the fishing spots and method to use in his backyard. ANSA Qld?. There has been some progress on the restructure on this front. Lloyd and Tom were involved in a telephone conference the other week and will bring us up to speed on what transpired.

### **Upcoming Club Trips**

#### **Southern Moreton Bay April 17th**

Our usual trip out to the southern bay Islands, with Snapper, Tailor, and Jew the target species. Kev Ford is the trip captain, with the Weinam Creek ramp, Redland Bay the suggested departure point.

#### **Mid Year Dinner May 21<sup>st</sup>**

The venue has to confirmed for this. JC is the social director for this one.

#### **Southern Bay May 28<sup>th</sup>**

This trip will be around the Southern Bay (mouth of the Logan, Russell Island and adjacent area) Lloyd is the trip captain for the trip.

#### **Southern Bay Trip (Winter Whiting, Squid) June 18th**

We need a Winter Whiting and Squid expert to captain this trip. Looking at the area east of McCleay Island on the Banana Banks. In good weather, well within the reach of a 3.8m boat.

## Brisbane River (lower) July 17th

This trip at the mouth of the river, can be a very productive area to those who know it. The Tailor hopefully will be running at the wall at the mouth as they were on previous club trips to area. Snapper, Flathead and Bream as well.

## Trout Trip, Uncle Billy's Retreat, New England August 13/17<sup>th</sup>

Pack your fleecy lined underwear for this one. Uncle Billy's is a private trout fishery, 5 hours drive from Brisbane on the New England. Situated just west of Glencoe, halfway between Glen Innes and Guyra. The property has a large stocked dam at the doorstep of the fishing cabins. Fly only, but you can use a fly (single hook) on a spin rod. I've downloaded some photos for your perusal. John Eldred is the co-ordinator for this trip.



## Trip Reports

### Borumba trip 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016

A bit of a quiet trip this year with only 4 members attending. Chris Lund, John Reid, Kevin Ford and myself. Usually we have all three of the 'good cabins' booked but this year only one was needed. This year was a treat because due to blue green algae the dam was shut to skiing but still opened for fishing. So peaceful.

**Day One:** Chris and John arrived on the Friday and fished the dam in the afternoon. This was not a great start to the trip for Chris with his 15 hp Johnson unable to rev or even select gears. Turned out to be a broken throttle cable, this made for a slow trip back to the ramp on electric power. John had a few good hits on his lures but no joy for our anglers on the day.





**Day Two:** Saturday and what a great start, no wind and near glass condition for most of the day. We were on the water at 5.30 am. Chris had joined me due to his mechanical issues and Kevin was on the water around 7 am having travelled up from Victoria Point early Saturday morning. Kev was on a mission to catch his first Saratoga on fly and to do this there was nothing but fly gear on his boat. This weekend was hard catching fish and this day Kevin got quite a bit of casting practice. A bit more of Kev's Saratoga fly fishing lesson later.

My day was also quite so most of the morning involved changing lures. Fishing the Yabba creek arm and finally hooking my first Toga around 9.30. This was caught on a TT Striker spinner bait, 3/8 Oz purple skirt. This was my personal best Saratoga measuring up at 660 mm. quick photo and back in the water for this magnificent specimen.

Chris was then convinced to try spinnerbaits and after a while was rewarded with a 25cm Bass. This was the first fish he had caught using one so he was quite happy with that. That was it for the morning session.

After lunch it was time to hit the water again with a line of storms fast approaching from the west. This didn't stop us extreme bunch of fishermen, this time fishing in the Borumba creek section. It was absolutely bucketing down with some very near lightning strikes thrown in.

John tethered his little tinnie to a tree so he wouldn't get blown away, but was having some trouble untying but eventually got it off and continued to fish. Still some good fishing to be had and Chris hooked another small bass, again on spinnerbait. A bit further around B bay I had another good toga on, but this one spat the hook on the first jump. We fished till about 5.00 and eventually called it a day as we were soaked to the bone.

Sunday was another nice calm morning so we decided to fish the Yabba creek arm again. The Saratoga were very active about 8 o'clock and Kevin had achieved his goal and boated a 450 mm toga on fly. Kevin noted that it was a slight pull rather than an aggressive strike as you would get using a lure. This was more like the feel of the fly getting pulled through some weed.

A few firsts on the weekend, but not as many Saratoga as we would have liked. A few lessons for this trip, the main one being that the increasing numbers of bait schools and boney bream mean that you are fishing deeper for toga. Surface strikes are less but still possible but not as common as years gone by.

Cu Jeff Maddalena

## **Glenlyon Cod Captures**

Lloyd on his recent trip to Glenlyon landed a 90cm plus Cod, tagged and released it, but unfortunately had it discovered dead the next day by the “Cod Inspector” Tom Walbank. The release of large cod is a vexing question. The survival rate is not good, and keeping them when you have already reached your bag limit and don't have the means to store the fillets is a problem you have to confront. Brian Dare has asked us to keep them, but you have to make your own decision keeping the above factors in mind.

## **A “Snapper” Trip?**

I recently decided on the spur of the moment the other Friday to head down to Mcleay for a fish for Snapper. The tide was right, a high at daylight, which meant fishing the run out. For a Friday morning the Weinam Creek ramp was packed, I just got the last park. The prawns were running, so the cast net brigade was out in full force. An unbroken line of navigation lights were streaming to the south, the Saltworks probably. I was headed the other way, so they weren't a problem.

I started at the Iron Pin, not a hit for an hour's fishing. There were boats sitting on the wreck at the red beacon to the north, so I drifted about in the area for 30 mins, nothing. Moving over to the deep hole off Pott's Point a few drifts only resulted in one hit on a Transam. By this time the wind had backed off to dead calm, and the show of bait showering along the rocks south of the old jetty attracted my attention. I drifted south casting a small popper against the rocky bank for about 7 to 800 metres until the rough country petered out. I moved south to the rocks and rubble at the northern edge of Toondah Harbour. I had caught Bream here in the past. Changing over to new subsurface minnow I had been making lately, and with the tide now dropping, I worked the edges of the mangroves and back over the rubbly, weedy flats. Half way along, the typical Bream strike, swirls behind the lure on a pause, a school of Bream fighting over it. The lure disappeared, and a Bream tore off with it. A 32cm Bream came to the net.



**Left of the mangrove tree, the 41cm fish**

Moving further along, the tide was rippling over a rubble bank, no more than 30cm of water. Positioning the boat bow in the tide with the Minnkota, I worked the bank. A tip here, when working lures for Bream, retrieve the lure with the rod tip, not the reel. Rod pointing down, not winding, pull the lure for a short distance with your rod, pause, wind in the slack line, pull the lure again. Bream will usually hit when the lure is still, or on the first movement. Very visual fishing, keep your eyes glued on the lure, looking for that telltale swirl behind it. Good polaroids are essential.

Back to the fishing. About 10 minutes fishing this area, again swirls behind the lure, a school fighting over it, bigger fish this time, about 5 fish in the school. A fish hit it, breaking the surface with a loud splash. It took off steadily around the bow of the boat heading for deeper



water. It must have realised something was wrong, and took off in a 5 metre run. Coming to the net, after more runs, I had to take a second look. My first glance, because of the size, a Grunter flashed through my mind. No, a Bream, the biggest I have ever caught, 41cm. There were other fish just a big in that school. A high for the morning, my best Bream and on one of my own lures.



**The mornings catch 32 to 41cm**

The tide was dropping fast, and no more action in this area. I have never fished much further south than this point along Macleay. It shallowed out and some rocks were marked on the chart down towards Lamb Island and the Lucas Passage. I have often noticed a large sandbank that dries on the bottom of the tide in this area, it was showing so I headed down to check it out. The rocks shown on the chart were about 100m the west of it. More rock than I had envisaged, a rock bar no less, rising up about a metre, covered in oyster shell with tide flow past them(see pics) A shelly, weedy bottom, no more than a metre of water. Prime Bream country.

The first cast produces action, and then nearly every cast after that. Bream swirling and chopping at the lure, a lot of small fish, until another 30 plus cm fish took the lure. Moving over to the sand bank, I was surprised to see the bank was actually formed on top of another rubble flat, with some outcrops of rock. Working the shallow water either side of the bank produced another 30cm fish, dropped another and landed 3 just legal Bream. In this style of fishing, strikes to hook-ups, about 30:1.



**The rocks. Lamb Island to the right.**

The lesson of the day, be prepared to explore new country try something different, and in this case, after decades of fishing the bay, I never knew it existed. On a high tide, early morning you would have to think Snapper would be working this area.

Trev



**The lure, 40mm, runs subsurface.**

### **Annual Membership Fees**

Normal Membership - \$70

Family Membership - \$90

Student over 16 - \$20

Student under 16 (non family) \$15

Junior – \$15

You can pay by cash at a meeting or by direct deposit into BSB 814282 Account 30814236

**Any club member wishing to sell gear, please let me know so I can place it in the newsletter**

### **Club Logos & Stickers – Shirts & Boat**

Large & small boat stickers – Large \$6 Small \$5  
SBSFC Club Logo embroidered on your shirt - \$10 - Bring to a club meeting, Back the next.

### **LENDING LIBRARY**

The club has a number of fishing and fishing associated DVDs for hire. Available at club meetings, a \$20 deposit, refunded when they are returned at the next meeting