



## **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER**

Next Meeting **Tuesday** 6th

**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

**With the fire at the Bowls Club, the new temporary? venue is the Community Centre, 10 James St, Beenligh. Limited parking, but room in the National Bank park next door.**

### **Next Meeting**

Our last meeting for the year. I've done a DVD on the Glenlyon trip and one on my trip to SA (if you can put up with a short travelogue along with the fishing)

### **Upcoming Club Trips**

#### **Albert River Shark Trip – January 26<sup>th</sup> Australia Day**

Paterson St boat ramp with a barbbque at Ray Bricknell's residence at 12 noon. Ray is the trip captain.

#### **Borumba Dam – February 10, 11, 12<sup>th</sup>**

One of our annual freshwater trips, cabins or camping at the Deer Park. John Eldred, trip captain

#### **LAFMA Carp Comp, Wyralong Dam – March 18<sup>th</sup>**

The LAFMA carp and tilapia removal day to raise funds for stocking the dam. Lloyd is the contact as LAFMA secretary.

## **Tweed River Weekend – March 25, 26**

The venue is the Hacienda/Homestead Caravan parks depending on cabins or camping options. You can fish the lower river or go up into the fresh tidal section for Bass. Neil McNeil is the captain.

### **SBFC GLENLYON DAM TRIP 2016**

Near perfect weather conditions accompanied 11 Club members and 2 guests for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive trip to Glenlyon Dam this year. They were Tom Wallbank, Lloyd Willmann, Glen Kennedy, Neil McNeill, Brad Baldwin, Owen Powell, Peter Thompson, Jeff Maddalena, John Cumberland, John Reid, Trevor Saunders, Trevor's long-time friend Bill Bowtell and ex-member Dave Weston.

The contrast between last year and this year couldn't have been more stark. Last year the fishing was hard going with more Cod caught than Golden Perch, the highlight being the record number of trophy size Cod



caught by members, led by Neil McNeill's 1.2 m plus fish. This year you had to hide your lures otherwise you would find a Golden attached to it. There were well over 300 Golden Perch caught, but quite a few of these were undersize, something I hadn't seen for a few years. I was starting to wonder where the next generation of Yellas had gone to. However there was some good size Golden Perch caught with a few over 50 cm. They were hitting the lures that hard the larger fish were being mistaken for Cod.

In addition to all the Yellas caught there were 62 Murray Cod landed. Only 4 of these were legal, with Lloyd's 77 cm fish being the longest. The other 3 were caught by JC 72 cm, Owen 68 cm, and Neil was very pleased with his first legal Cod 66 cm caught from a kayak. The rest were between 23 cm and 58 cm.

John Reid fished the dam for the first time out of the 'turtle' and was pleased to have caught his first GP and Cod and going home with a feed.

The reason for so many fish being caught was due to the dam receiving a top up from 25% to 70%. This provided plenty of new territory for fish to forage which the Yellas love nothing better. In such conditions they feed with such ferocity and at times so prolific, that Lloyd and I were cursing when another one nailed our lure. Something we thought we would never do.

This trip is always a success socially with this one being no exception and with the amount of fish caught just added to its success. As Always proprietors Debbie and Brian's hospitality shown



to our Club adds to a wonderful stay. They do just about anything for our members except catch and clean our fish. Their invitation to join them for a great meal, complete with dessert, is becoming legendary. A big thanks from SBSC to Debbie and Brian. Any member who hasn't been to this dam should make plans to make the trip next year. You won't be disappointed.

**Tom Walbank**



**LAFMA Tagging Trip**

Like Glenlyon this trip is a fixture during the club year. Again camping at Mark Ward's property at Kerry on the Albert River. About 12 SBSFC/LAFMA members attended, fishing the Albert River, Christmas & Running Creeks. Cod wise, the latter 2 creeks seemed to be the hot spots. Five cod tagged, and about 30 Bass. Eddy Latz & Jeff Maddelana tagged most of the Bass in Eddie's Nursery, as it should be called, because of the size average.



Mal Brown and myself, walked up Christmas Creek from Glen's bridge. It had a nice flow in it, perfect for wading. Mal scored a cod second cast on his go to lure, a red cedar diver with a channel catfish tooth imbedded in it from his trip to the USA (he lost it later, much to his disgust). A couple of pools later, I scored a 38cm Bass, again on a red cedar minnow. Walking up for about an hour, we started to see fresh footprints. Neil and John were to come down from Hillview, but not possible in that time frame. Around the corner, the mystery was solved. Kev Ford had snuck in to do some poaching on our turf. We kindly let him





accompany us, and naturally he ended up catching a cod out of probably the deepest hole in that section.

The afternoon session saw Mitch take Kev, Glen and myself on to new water (Kev & I) at Running Creek. Running Creek is mainly all large boulders, not gravel and sand like the others. Two main holes (probably the fishiest looking ones in the area we fish) Mitch scored a cod first cast in the top of the first hole. A short walk to the narrower bottom section saw Mitch getting hit on surface lure first cast. Second cast, bang again, a 50cm Cod.

A couple of minutes later, I landed one slightly smaller. A walk down to the second hole, just as impressive, but no action. With the sun sinking, we walked past the scene of the previous action. Mitch cast, again his lure got smashed, the same fish he caught an hour before. Unfortunately while releasing it again, it did the head shake and twist and swam off with the lip grips hanging from its jaw. A real downer to the afternoon. The cod must have been in spawning mode from the fight marks on their bodies. A good sign for the future.



That night, the usual social get together, though I suspect most of us are starting to show our age after a strenuous day, by the earlier than usual bed times. Sunday saw Mal and I head up the eastern branch of the Albert, for no result. Kev revisited Christmas Creek for a nil score. I think Jeff and Eddy went cradle snatching in the nursery.



## Kev's NZ Fishing Trip

I'd decided to catch up with a Guide/Mate in NZ to experience some NZ Trout fishing. Not the most experienced guy in trout fishing and not having been to NZ fishing before I decided to hire the services of Guide Jeff Forsee who I'd fished a couple of days with at Alaska West. Jeff and I had a couple of great days fishing in AK, so I'd asked Jeff to put together a mix of Back Country and a Road Trip.

Arrived into Queenstown Saturday around noon, direct flight out of Brisbane (3 hours). Sunday morning Jeff dropped by the Motel in Queenstown and we hit the road. I still had no real idea of where we were headed. We drove around 2 hours south of Queenstown and the Back Country adventure began. Parked the car and organised our packs and gear. Offloaded everything we didn't need. 100mt to a wire suspension bridge (1 Person at a time) across a fast flowing river, ok this is an extreme start. Started the hike through Beech forest along a trail, 8 k's and 3.5 hours later we'd arriving into Back Country. Now if I could get my legs working!! A quick pitch of the 2x small tents and we hit the river around 3pm, fishing upstream.



Reports from 3x pair of hunters we passed on the trail were, not many fish and the one reported capture it was a scrawny fish. Jeff schooled me up on hook sets etc. Warning me that NZ Trout fishing is a lot different to Alaska. Well it didn't take long and Jeff had started spotting trout, I probably spooked the first real chance we had. But it wasn't long and we



were into Rainbow trout on surface flies. The fish were all in beautiful condition and receptive to surface presentations. Occasionally we hit a stubborn fish and a nymph would usually do the trick. We had a great afternoon, with 9 rainbows to 4.5lbs and dropping a few more. We finished the afternoon off in a pool casting to a couple of rainbows which were moving around quite erratically. After working

them over pretty well but no joy, we decided to move up the pool a little bit. We (Jeff) spots another trout, we get a big follow and the fish takes the surface fly. A cracker of a trout at 6.25lb of Brown Trout!! Clearly this is what was menacing the other rainbows in the pool. Ecstatic and worn out we hike the 3 k's we'd covers back to camp for some dinner and a rest.

**Day 2 Monday;** Beautiful morning, Breakfast and we hike downstream for 1.5 hours and start fishing.



Again we (Jeff) are spotting trout and we're back into them. Angler gets complacent and starts mucking up the hook sets on surface fly. Focus. Do some technical casting to fish under logs with downstream presentations, do everything right, get the fish to eat, unfortunately set to early again!! Focus, Slow down, Make the first cast count, Relax, Soft hands Lunch break. Clouds move in, rain starts, spotting becomes harder but Jeff's the man We still work hard and results come. We end the day with around 20 rainbows to the net and drop a bunch of others. Only 1 scrawny fish amongst the bunch. Get back to camp, it's too wet for a fire so a quick roast dinner (rehydrated) a coffee and our 1x glass of Red wine ration, and we're both exhausted after hiking another 6k's again today. Hit the sleeping bag.



**Day 3 Tuesday;** The rain stopped around 3am in the morning after the fly over the tents collapsed.

Everything is soaked, and the river has risen a bit.

We're hiking back out again this morning so we have breakfast, pack up the gear, don our waders to start hiking out.

Just before Heartbreak Hill we ditch the waders and change back to hiking gear. 2x Steep ascents on the way out, the first is a killer. Just over 3 hours we stop for cheese and crackers (Lunch) then about 1 k to go to get back to the car. We make it out and a change out of sweat soaked clothes to stay warm, we hit the road again. But we're not going to our country pub to have a shower and reset for the next part of the trip. No we're straight to another favourite river of Jeff's. It too has seen some rain and is a bit dirtied up, so the

plan is to fish steamers for Brown trout. We had a deliberate plan to start the trip fishing for rainbow trout to make sure we had everything right before looking for Browns to make sure I was ready.

The afternoon summary; hiked a few more k's, had 2x follows, 2x hits and short hook ups and spotted/spooked a couple of others. One of the hits was from a huge brown trout. So we didn't land a fish, but still learnt a heap. Raced back to the Hotel just in time for dinner before the kitchen closed. Couple of Beers and we're exhausted after another massive day.

**Day 4 Wednesday;** Back to the same river as day 3 but around 15k's further downstream. Get there just early enough to secure the Beat for the day. The river has cleared a little overnight and is ok. The breeze is up today, so accurate presentations are proving a challenge. We fish the morning with a couple of follows but no fish to the net.

We stop for lunch and regroup, confident that we're doing the hard yards and the results will come. Within 15 minutes of resuming we're





rewarded with a beautiful 5lb Brown trout to the net!! Excited and relieved, we continue on and 30 minutes, we later prove the 1<sup>st</sup> fish wasn't a fluke and land a 2<sup>nd</sup> Brown of the around the same size. We end the day casting to cruising fish and fish in big eddies with not further enjoy. Again it's a hike back to the car only 3-4 k's and we race again back to the pub to order a meal before the kitchen closes. A few more beers tonight and we were content.

**Day 5 Thursday;** The weather is crap. It's blowing and drizzling rain. We talk about a plan for today, which could be going for a drive and checking conditions in the local area. Common sense then kicks and after having such a great experience for the past 4 days and catching some great fish. We decide we've been fishing and hiking hard for the past 4 days and we should be content with what the trip has provided. We decided to call it quits and return to Queenstown. This gave the opportunity to do some washing and drying, and dry waders and boots before flying out Friday afternoon.



### **Sausage Sizzle – Bunning's Bethania**

Don't forget the above on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. Details this meeting re what, where, who and how.

### **For Sale - Lead Anchors**

With an oversupply of lead in the workshop, I've made some lead anchors. I have used one for years, handy to stop the boat drifting away on the ramp, pulling up to gather bait and just simply anchoring. Not made to replace standard anchors (legal models, you must have in boat with chain) but I think I have hardly used a normal anchor for years, except in fast running water.

At the moment 2 weights 4kg and 6kg

# **\$10 each**



I can make heavier ones, probably up to 12kg – POA.

Trev Saunders

**Annual Membership Fees (Due by August Meeting every year)**

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**