



JUNE NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting **Tuesday** 6th June

Beenligh Bowls Club

11 Hanover St, Beenligh

Editor Trevor Saunders - 0418708858 tgkmsaunders@gmail.com

www.sbsfc.org PO Box 5057, Eagleby 4207

Next Meeting

The Pumicestone (Bribie) Passage weekend trip is the next big one on the calendar. This area is not often fished by club members, so we have enlisted Peter Griffiths from the Bribie Sportfishing Club to give a heads up on the area. **If you are going and want a mud map of the area, Neil suggests you print off the Pumicestone Passage maps from the trip sheet, so you can add any fishing spots Peter will mention.**

Trip Report – Southern Bay/Giants Grave, April 22nd

Emails, phone calls, or lack thereof in the days leading up to 'Mother's Day', indicated that it would be Neil McNeil (Yak) from the Alberton ramp, Kevin Ford via Redland Bay and yours truly departing from Dryers at the mouth of the Albert. A phone call from Kevin late Saturday arvo deleted him from the starting line up ... he was loading his fishing rods and gear into his boat in preparation for an early start Sunday morning when he realized he had brought the work ute home and not his normal ride ... no tow bar on the ute!

I woke early to water dripping from the gutters, didn't sound good, although Brownie did predict a wet Sunday ... "take your wet weather gear if you're going fishing" he said. Was backing down the ramp about 6.15 am and my phone rang ... it was Neil ... maybe he's decided to pull the plug ... no, just advising me that he was on track to meet me at the Alberton ramp around 6.30 am. Pleasantries aside, Neil indicated he would work his way down to Pitt's Rocks area or maybe as far as Ageston Sands, and depending on the weather conditions, would work his way back to Alberton with the run up tide as he had to be gone by 11am. I had changed my previous plans of heading down to the Flat Rock/Cobby area to chase flathead till the tide was making, to now head to Marks's to try for a Jewie at slack water and the first of the run up. The water was reasonably clean, a light breeze from the South West and mullet working, light drizzle, not a sole in site (they were all at home in bed where anyone with brains should be) ... maybe the Jewies don't know its raining.

A couple of hours of nothing much other than a cattie and a large ray had me deciding to head to Giants Grave for a snapper or maybe a Mulloway. By now the sky in the west

indicated the weather may be going to lift, but the wind had swung to the south and was increasing. I fished Giants Grave with various soft plastics suitable for snapper and jew for an hour or so for one legal flathead ... into the esky ... may as well have fresh flathead for mother's day tea. The drizzle had started again and the wind now had some east in it, so I decided to head back to Marks's for the last couple of hours of the run up tide.



Conditions were near perfect, slightly sheltered from the breeze, grey skies, not a great deal of run, the jewies will think it's still early morning. I set up two rods and sat back and waited ... didn't have to wait to long before both rods were going of ... bloody big salmon catfish. From then to departure it was bream, ranging from just legal

to one of 36cm. I added a couple of quality bream to the flathead in the esky ... I might not have gone home with a jewie, but at least I was going home with a couple of feeds of flathead and bream.

Note:- I checked my phone around 12.30 and noticed I had missed a couple of calls from Neil ... he had packed up and departed as previously planned having caught a couple of small undersized lizards around Ageston on soft plastic.

Lloyd Willmann, Trip Captain

Upcoming Club Trips

Pumicestone Passage (Bribie) - June 16/17/18th The trip captain, Neil Mc Neil, has done an excellent job on the trip sheet, which you all should have by now. The venue is at Toorbul, where we have rented a house, 21 The Esplanade, right on the water. The projected cost depending on the numbers should be \$20 to \$30 per person per night.

Logan River – Saturday July 8th The main target for this trip is Mulloway and the trip captain is the club's Mulloway expert par excellence, Lloyd Wilmann.

Evans Head - August 5/12th A week's trip to Evan's Head, North Coast, NSW. John Eldred (Trip Captain) is looking into accommodation. Winter species such are Bream. Luderick and Tailor would be the main targets this time of year.

New Member Contact - Owen Powell has volunteered to be our new member liasion person. Mission statement – to meet and greet prospective new members and help them feel at home and answer questions about the club.

Annual General Meeting – An early reminder, the August meeting is our AGM for election of office bearers and renewal of membership fees

A Stonefish Incident – *something we all should be aware of*

Many of you would know Bill Bowtell from Yeppoon. Bill unfortunately had a brush with a Stonefish recently, much to his discomfort to put it mildly. A lot of anglers don't realise how

dangerous and common they are, and to a lesser extent, the fresh/brackish water Bullrout, and both occur in our area. Bill stood on a Stonefish, wading to retrieve a snagged lure, while fishing a walk in section of Fishing Creek in Corio Bay, at least a kilometre from the vehicle. The initial first aid action was to pour a hot thermos of coffee (keeping enough for one cup to drink) over the affected area which relieved the pain enough to struggle into his clothes (after sitting in the mud in his jocks). He managed to make his way through mud and water to a group, fishing further down the creek, all the time feeling the venom spreading up his leg. He said towards the end, only adrenalin was keeping him moving and even the breeze blowing on his leg was triggering unbelievable pain spasms. The paramedics arrived an hour later and had to assist him out (no stretcher access) In the Yeppoon Hospital, high as kite after 2 painkilling “green whistles”, the treatment was regular immersion in hot water. The pain he said “was off the planet”. Antivenene could not be administered, because the fish could not positively indentified (the same criteria as with snake bite)

The moral of the story is, “be aware” of both the above species, wear footwear when wading, and carry an extra flask of coffee. Ray Brinknell had a close shave with a Bullrout in the Albert early in the year. The gravelly, weedy area we fish at the top of the tide influence is perfect for them. They are more common than you think.



Stonefish



Bullrout

Lure Fishing for Mullet

Ever caught a Mullet on a lure? Not a common event, but it does happen. One way is fly fishing, with a “bread style” fly, but with metal lures? A recent trip with Mal Brown down to the Brisbane River mouth saw this question resolved? We were trolling along the outer port wall hoping for early season Tailor, but only picking up the odd Yellowtail Pike. We noticed darker sections of water with agitated water and sand being stirred up from the bottom (4m). We came to the conclusion after seeing them jump, they were schools of



Sea Mullet. I've fished down there for over 10 years and have never seen schools as thick.

There could have been other fish with them, so Mal cast his 7gm blade into the school hoping to possibly hook a Tailor that might be under them. A couple of casts later saw something hit the lure and scream off taking Mal down to the backing. A Sea Mullet of about a kilo came to the net, with the Blade in his bottom lip. This was something different, so I clipped on a Blade after Mal landed another Mullet. A few casts, another one, all good fish, and boy, did they peel off some line. We caught half a dozen, left them to chase Flathead at my spot down there on the ebb tide (no result)



It was fresh Sea Mullet for dinner that night, and there not many fish to better it. Anything I have ever heard about Mullet on lures over the years, it has always when fish are schooled up and always on chrome metal lures. Jaggging? Perish the thought.



JCs Urunga Trip

We went down to Urunga 12 to 14 May to house sit Shirl's brother's place while they were in Tassie and of course to do a bit of fishing. I took Shirl and her sister Marie out on the Kalang River for our first trip for only a few small flathead on the troll. Having that poor result, Shirl and I decided to do our next trip up to Sawtell. We fished the last of the run out and first of the run in at Bonville Creek in the basin area adjacent to the boat ramp off Lyons Road.

The day before we shopped at the Urunga SPAR, and I noticed they had some Attack look-alike lures on sale for \$7, so I purchased two to try out at Sawtell. Normally I use the Attack lure in number 8 colour but decided to give these a troll and they performed great. We ended up with about 30 Dusky flathead for the session, keeping a couple for the table, the largest

going 55cm. The best colours were Olive Prawn and Orange Tiger. They trolled as good as the Attack lure and seemed to handle a quicker troll speed than the Attacks.

Of course, I went back to SPAR the next day and bought another five of these TrollCraft Shrimp lures!

I then decided to fish the Nambucca River at Nambucca Heads a few days later. Shirl's brother Michael from Newcastle was also up in Urunga on holidays and came with me. I had not fished there before although Brad had given me some tips. We fished the last of the run out tide along the sand flats to the river mouth area, putting the boat in at the ramp on Stuarts Island which is next to the Nambucca Heads Golf Club. This spot would be ideal for kayaks as you can paddle across from the ramp and into the sand flat areas.

The flats drop offs were holding good numbers of Sand flathead. We ended up trolling up 20 plus and you guessed it, the TrollCraft shrimp lures were doing all the catching. Michael enjoyed himself so much he didn't want to leave but with the tide change the fishing slowed down and we headed home with a few fish for the table.

I went back later in the week by myself and caught another 20 Sand flathead. I also trolled the flats right in front of the Golf Club clubhouse and caught good numbers on the bottom of the tide as there is a sand bank exposed there on the low tide.

I told some of the chaps on the table of knowledge at the bowls club about the lures and by the end of the week all the Troll Craft Shrimp lures were sold out at SPAR.

We had a great holiday at Urunga and next time will explore the Nambucca River a bit more. Brad says that it fishes well for whiting on surface lures. I did one quick fish for luderick at Urunga but only had one down. The locals say they are catching a few and expect to do a lot better into June and July.

Not sure if the Troll Craft shrimp lures are on sale anywhere in Brisbane. You can see the range at SAGA Tackle Marketing and they could tell you where available. Some details on the lure are below.



TrollCraft SHRIMP - 014 Lz Orange Tiger Product SKU: TRSH714

Body Length 48mm , Weighs 4 gms, Floating/ Slow Rise , Diver 1.5 to 2 Metres

Exploring Wyalarong Dam

A few weeks ago, a party of us went up to the upper reaches of Wyalarong Dam to ascertain access and fishing potential. This was just after the rain from Cyclone Debbie passed through, so the dam was at 100%. Mal and Lloyd in his boat, Neil and Glen with yaks, and myself in the green bathtub. Mal had been there the day before to check out the way in and ease of launch. The access is off the Old Beaudesert Rd. That crosses the creek at the top of the backed up water. One big problem is the water hyacinth

infestation. It was so bad that SEQ water have a floating boom a couple of kilometre's down the dam to stop it drifting down and affecting the rowing course. A contractor was in there with a floating weed eater to clear some of it (see photo), a very interesting piece of machinery.

While the map said "boat ramp", it was a gap beside a locked gate, with a log grid to slide water craft through and then a cleared bank (very slippery) beside a backwater. The water was

muddy from the rain with big rafts of hyacinth amongst the trees. We all trolled and set red claw pots with no results with either.

Observations – plenty of structure, but bank access could prove difficult as the dam drops. Water clarity after rain would not be good and the hyacinth could be a problem.



Getting ready to launch



Structure in the dam, hyacinth in the trees



The Wyalarong Weed Eater

Mid Year Dinner

Probably one of our best attended, upwards of 30 members, family and friends at Fitzy's at Loganholme. A good evening was had by all who came along.



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