



## APRIL NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

7pm Beenleigh Bowls Club

11 Hanover St, Beenleigh

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### Coming Trips

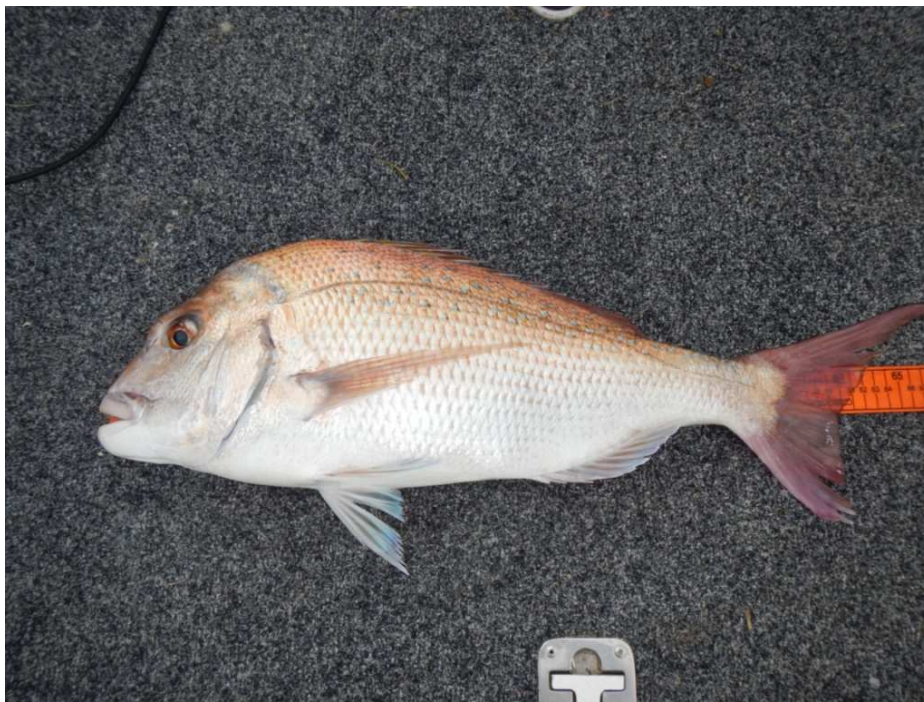
#### Logan river trip 30<sup>th</sup> may

This month trip is to the logan river fishing around the mouth of the Logan and out to Giants grave. Fishing for Mangrove Jack ,snapper and Mulloway.

The venue for the Mid-Year Dinner on May 23 is the Beenleigh Bowls Club at 6.30PM

We decided to have the dinner there as they support us by providing the meeting each month free of charge.

### Trip Reports



Southern Morton bay by Kevin Ford

Trip Report- Southern Bay Islands Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

A very well attended trip, saw Myself, Brad and guest Garry, Jeff Maddalena, Eddie and Chris "Wat's Her Name" Lund, Lloyd, Bob and Ray, Neil McNuggets on the water.

An early start saw Brad and I launching round the same time.

The trip to the northern tip of Macleay in the dark at Low tide was unusually rough with a northern pushing down the Redlands channel.

At Day break the conditions improved, although the bait schools were proving hard to find.

Things were quiet till around 6.45am, when I was hit hard with line being peeled off at an unfamiliar rate.

The usual mayhem unfolded, with the seconded line being picked up by the Min Kotta prop.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> big run, and I'm then trying to stow the Min Kotta so the trailing line from the min Kotta doesn't get picked up by the outboard prop.

To net comes a very nice 60cm "to the fork" Snapper.

Lovely work. I think my largest snapper from Pott's to date.

The morning remains quiet, I see only Lloyd landing a small snapper, and others have moved down the "The Nursery" at Iron Stem.

Neil arrives via Kayak from Vicky Point.

We have a coffee, Bob and Ray ring in around 7.30am.

A leisurely start time by the gentlemen, but by now the conditions are very nice.

Slight breeze not effecting the drift too much.

Most are landing a few smallish Snapper.

Brad and Garry have a couple of legal fish down south.

Lloyd adjourns to the deep hole on the northern side of Pott's.

There's about 16x boats at Pott's point.

Because the fishing a bit quiet, there's a bit of running around on the water, and a few phone calls etc.

A few rafting chats and things, which was a little different to the normal, everyone focused on trying to catch fish.

Well it seemed that way for me, but it would have been a little different if I didn't have 1x nice snapper in the well.

Around 9ish, a few start to head home.

I accept my reprimand and the subsequent demerit points from Ray for not having my Radio on board.

(Point noted and a firm slap on the wrist)

Eddie, Jeff and myself head down to the Salt Works and I join in the Prawning fleet.

Seems there are a few prawns around so an added bonus.

Over the next 3 hours I haul around 7lts of Prawns, and also score a Legal Sand Crab and a 37cm Snapper in my cast net.

So all in all my morning has been excellent, but by the time I start heading back to the boat ramp at 12.00 the northerly has kicked in a gain and the ride home is getting a bit bumpy.

It was good for a bunch of us to get on the water in one area again, and for the weather to be a nice as it was for most of the morning.

Shame the fishing wasn't better for everyone, but most caught a few fish, even if they were not quiet legal.

Thanks everyone for attending.

#### Southern Bay Island approach.

In preparation to Sunday's trip, I had pre-rigged 2x rods.

12lb and 15lb leaders on 15 lb braid.

Because of the large tide variation on this morning's run in tide I rigged up 1/4oz 3/0 Jigheads.

Normally I'd be fishing 1/6oz 3/0 jigheads.

In past trips I've experienced a really hot bite at first light.

In fact I notice it can happen as soon as the Kookaburra's start up for the morning and it is usually right at 1<sup>st</sup> light.

With this in mind I always try and get out there in time to have a scout around and try and locate schools of bait, have 4 areas I usually focus on.

All have some form of structure. I'll take a quick run over these spots only for a few minutes to check them and the immediate area around each spot.

If I find bait on the sounders I'm happy to focus on this spot.

The other giveaway is turtles working an area.

It's not uncommon to find turtles around the boat when near a bait school.

So if you see turtles working an area head towards that area.

I like a consistent drift anywhere from 0.5 To 1 knot, I use the electric to adjust my drift speed.

Casting up current and allowing the line to come back to the boat and just past it till I have to start dropping line back out again to get to the bottom again. A lot of times you won't feel the bottom so much but I know I'm close.

If you're unsure go one size heavier (1/4oz) on jighead, then definitely feel the bottom and drop back one size (1/6oz) again, to know I must be close.

I had snagged up a couple of times and actually dropped back to 1/6oz jigheads, a/ because I was fishing the edge of the channel a bit and not so much current, and b/ I'd snagged up.

I had 1x 4" Snapback on one rod and I had a 2<sup>nd</sup> rod rigged with a 3" Bass Minnow just to downsize the presentation and maybe trigger something.

Bait was hard to find on Sunday morning, so I moved around a bit.

After the sun was up, and still no results, I decided to move and drift over an area where I used to see the same boat sitting very often.

I rarely go near it as it's only a couple of bumps on the bottom on the each of the channel away from Pott's a bit.

On the first pass near the structure I hooked onto the Snapper in 18ft of water on the 3" Bass Minnow.

Subsequent drifts didn't result in any further catches, but it's not unusual to find small snapper in schools and larger fish by themselves.

So maybe I got lucky on Sunday morning, Pott's point and I think most parts of the bay have been fishing quiet for most of this year.

But hopefully this picture fills in some of the pieces of the puzzle as to how I approach this area.

Good luck on future trips.

Kevin Ford

## **Membership Information**

Meetings are held the first Monday of the month, at 7pm sharp, concluding at 9pm sharp. Drinks are available at the bar.

Membership Fees – Adult single \$60, Family \$80, Student over 16 \$20, Child under 16 (no parent in club) \$20, Child under 16 (parent in club) \$10. Visitors Welcome.

Newsletters are e mailed before club meeting, copies at meeting. Please notify me of any e mail changes

## **Gear for Sale by Club Members**

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

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

Large & small boat stickers – Large \$6 Small \$2

SBSFC Club Logo embroidered on your shirt - \$10 - Bring to a club meeting, Back the next.

## **Special Offer to Members of the SBSFC**

As some of you will be aware by now, I obviously have too much time on my hands and have taken on the challenge of fly casting and am adding this to my fishing repertoire.

I have found the journey so far extremely enjoyable and rewarding, and am being encouraged by my casting mentor to consider gaining

IFFF( International Fly Fisheries Federation) accreditation as a Casting Instructor in the latter part of 2016.

Gaining this accreditation covers many aspects of fly casting as well as the ability to teach.

With this in mind, I'd like to offer free tuition to SBSFC members, family or friends who may have an interest in learning or improving their fly casting skills.

I expect this experience to be of benefit to us both.

If you have an interest, or any questions, please feel free to give me a call A/H on 3829 2525

Kind Regards

Kevin Ford

## **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

## **DEALS FOR CLUB MEMBERS**

## **Marine Safe Australia – Marine Safety Gear**

**21 Rowland St, Slacks Creek 3808-1988**

**Danny Hughes Fishing Restoration – Rod/Reel Repairs Ph 0438 012619**

**Yatala Outboard Wrecking – Specialising in used parts for all makes & models. Repairs & Servicing – Gary & Trent 3807 2488 – 7 Old Pacific Hwy**

**Gem Bait & Tackle – 281 Jacob's Well Rd, Alberton Ph 3287 3868**

**Fuel, Gas, Bait & Tackle, Ice, Groceries & Takeaways - Open 7days**