



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting Monday 2nd November

7pm Beenligh Bowls Club

11 Hanover St, Beenligh

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Last Meeting

This was to the first of the new format with a minimum of business and the emphasis on passing on how to, when and where fishing information. Unfortunately, with the problems ANSA Qld is having, outlined by Stefan Sawynok who came along to explain the situation, the agenda went west. There were some other things about Baffle Creek I wanted to tell you, and our cast net demo. All was hurried and the clock beat us again.

Next Meeting

Taking the above on board, new operators at the Bowls Club are letting us stay past 9pm, but it will not be open on the Monday of a public holiday. This doesn't mean we will there till midnight, but it gives us that little extra time to do things properly and not hurry out. With the Glenlyon trip the next big one, and myself just returning from a week down there, I'll have a DVD of the week's fishing. Lloyd and I will be giving a rundown on the method's we use, to pass on some tips to any new members going.

With the club having a meeting a few weeks ago re ways to attract new members, one of the ways that was suggested was to do a video clip for You Tube. I've put a 3 minute clip together for your perusal. We will have a look at it this meeting so I can gauge your thoughts on it, and any changes or improvements I can do.

Club Trips

Upper Albert Bass & Cod Tag November 6th to 8th – Our regular trip in conjunction with LAFMA to tag Bass and Cod in the upper Albert and Logan Rivers. Camping on Mark Ward's Property at Kerry on the Albert River. The thrust of this trip will be to capture some Mary River Cod for brood stock for Hanwood Hatcheries, who supply the Bass for Wyalorong Dam. Lloyd has already e mailed a trip sheet.

Glenlyon Dam November 20th to 27th – Our regular week long Glenlyon trip. Always popular well attended. Final call this meeting. Tom Walbank has booked 4 cabins and trip sheet has gone out

Christmas Get Together December 5th – We still haven't decided on a venue for this. Discussion this meeting.

Club Calendar for 2016

Still some things to be sorted out on this, mainly the Cressbrook Dam trip. The camping situation there makes camping with boats a bit onerous. Another suggestion is Lake Barambah (BP Dam) near Nanango and Murgon. A bit further away (3.5 hours) but better camping and cabins. Some more research needs to be done on this.

Trip Reports

Trip report on Baffle Creek 10th – 17th October 2015

Nine members and guests nominated for the trip but only eight managed to get there. Ian Williamson was delayed for a couple of days due to issues with his local council and when he finally got underway, and partly on his journey, his boat trailer decided to give up the ghost. Bad luck Ian.



John Eldred was also delayed by a day. He attended his Niece's wedding along the way up at beautiful down town Blackbutt. Country weddings are always a lot of fun but it took him a couple of days to clear his head. Watching the bride dancing in her white gown while wearing footy socks and cowboy boots was quite funny as was watching the bride's maids riding a mechanised bull in their gowns. The accommodation was quite good. A whole bowls club separated from the main camping area to ourselves was great, heaps of room for boats and cars and no worries about noise.



On the fishing front, the trip was quite disappointing. We have been to a lot of places with nowhere near the variety of fish habitat types that Baffle Creek offers and done better. Rock bars, sand bars, huge sand banks full of drains, yabby banks, shear rock faces dropping into deep water, prawn farm outlets, a bar area with white water flowing into deep channels. You

name it, Baffle Creek has it all. Unfortunately, on this trip, it also had an heap of snot weed. Thirty seconds in the water and your lure was covered in the stuff.

A couple of days into the trip, Mike and David Reynolds worked the white water near the bar area and caught quite a few good dart on yabbies while the rest of us worked the estuary area with plastics, hard bodies and blades for zip. We spoke to a couple of locals later that day and were told they caught ten spotty and school mackerel in the same area so back we went the next day with spoons, slugs and hard bodies, again zip.

Another day Neil McNeil and John Eldred worked a large sand bank near the bar for a couple of hours. The bank was heaven on a stick for flathead. Two to eight feet of water with lots of drains, zip. Neil also took his kayak up into the Deepwater National Park a couple of times to fish the brackish water, again zip.



Bob Hartley and Chris Lund did get into a few bream, grunter and a small estuary cod on bait but little else. All in all a bit of a disaster fish wise but an area I would like to try again, either as a club trip or a private one.

John Eldred

Editor's comments – While the location was my suggestion, and I apologise that I didn't attend, it's great to see (apart from fish) you had a good time. As I said, like anywhere, it has it's ups and downs and does cop a lot of pressure. As John said, it has a lot of different fishing habitats in close proximity. I've had 3 trips there, 2 were great and one like yours. A different time perhaps, say March to May.

TOONUMBAR DAM by Tom Walbank

I accepted an invitation from the Ballina Angling Club to join them on their annual weekend club trip to Toonumbar Dam, which is a half hour drive west of Kyogle on the Kyogle to Bonalbo Road. It's a small picturesque dam surrounded by native bush that you can troll the perimeters of in half a day. The camp ground is beside the lake with plenty of level shady campsites, costing \$10.00 per site, plus \$2 per head. Fires are allowed but you need to bring your own firewood. Facilities are sparse with just two pit toilets, a rainwater tank, a few covered picnic tables, a single lane concrete boat ramp and a small jetty which will accommodate 3 tinnies.



The dam has been stocked with 225,000 Bass and has some resident eel tailed catfish and some large eels. I don't know why they haven't added Eastern Cod, as a couple of other local dams have been stocked with Cod (fishing is banned in these dams) along with sections of the Wilson and Clarence Rivers.



After setting up camp I was on the water by 2 pm and was able to troll around the whole dam before dark, in which time I boated 16 Bass ranging in size from 190 to 300 mm. By the time I arrived back at camp the party was in full swing and when the boys had finished they had put a fair dent in their supplies.



When I crawled out of bed at day break all the other anglers were heading out for an early morning session. They were planning to return mid-morning before returning to fish an afternoon session. Me, on the other hand, decided to pack some tucker and stay out all day. At 7.30 am I launched the boat and it was 8 am by the time I cast the first lure. The previous day I had located fish schooling around shallow points covered in weed and lily pads. This made sense as the main food supply in the dam was shrimp. I trolled at 15 ft which kept my lure just on the edge

of the weed without fouling up. I trolled back and forth around each point until the Bass went off the bit. The only other location I tried was the creek which fed the dam. While there wasn't the numbers here like on the points, the quality was better. Here I came across two anglers that caught a couple of quality Bass on surface lures earlier that morning.

By the time I called it a day at 6 pm I had netted 64 Bass. While the quantity was there the quality wasn't. My best fish for the day were 340, 320, 295, 280 and 270. The rest were between 240 and 160 mm. It didn't matter too much what brand of lure I used as long as it contained some colour gold.

Trolling seemed to produce the most fish. While casting produced fish, fouling in the weed was a problem. Spinnerbaits produced some fish but were not as effective as hard bodied lures. Those anglers who float fished the edge of the weed beds using sand crickets for bait, caught better quality fish in the high 30's, with the best going 40 cm, but they had to be patient to catch just a few.

This amount of action would provide a perfect opportunity to introduce kids to lure fishing

Tom Walbank

Glenlyon Dam October 14th to 20th by Trev Saunders

An October trip has started out to be a regular thing with a couple of old fishing mates who I have known for over 40 years. We have all been through the ANSA movement (myself being the only survivor) Norm Collingwood and Bill Rudder who some of you know are the above. Norm was the only one with a lack of Murray Cod experience, so we were all hoping to change that.

"The dam's at 30% and falling, only 100 megs a day going out, so it shouldn't affect the fishing" was Brian's advice arriving. Now not to gainsay the Codfather, but a falling dam in my experience is not a good thing, however small the release is. One thing in our favour was the New Moon. The last trip to Glenlyon, it was at 95%, so at 30% the game had changed. I've seen it at 20%, many years ago, and it does shrink the area you fish, especially trolling.





On the other side of the coin, it does reveal structure you have caught fish on in the past, and you see country you fish over when it rises. I added quite a few GPS way points, for when the tide comes again.

The park was at capacity, Brian was turning people away. Fish? Well that was the problem. The bait fishermen were complaining, no fish (Goldens) and very few shrimp for bait. One fellow hadn't had a bite for 5 days. Our prime target were Cod, but it's great if you catch some Goldens while about it.

A lot of trolling, 160km by my GPS, saw us boat 4 Cod, a 58, 68, and two in the 70 cm's. Two had tags, the details of which I have to follow up. Bill lost 2 good fish, in the 90's we suspect. All on red&black/yellow home grown lures. With 3 of us and 2 boats, Norm partnered with Bill for a couple of sessions, one of which saw a landing net disfunction, the like of you wouldn't believe that cost Bill one of the 90's (all revealed in the DVD)

Fly casting instruction

Don't forget to give me a call if you'd like to do a Fly Casting session at any time. It doesn't matter if you've never picked up a fly rod, or if you had been casting for year. We practice the following- The 5 Essentials of Fly, Casting, Good Timing, Lee Cummings Triangle Drill, Various keywords to use, Loop Formation - 8's and Straights Pickup Lay Down Cast, Double Haul Drill. If you want to catch up, give me a call on 3829 2525, I'm generally available on weekends. I can supply a rod if you have no gear, or you're free to bring your own along.

Kev Ford

Koi herpesvirus as a biological control for carp

Introduction:

Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) are not native to Australia, but they now dominate fish communities throughout many

inland waterways. Widespread eradication of these established populations would be difficult, costly and complicated. Recently, cyprinid herpesvirus 3, commonly known as koi herpesvirus (KHV), has been proposed as a potential biological control method for carp in Australia¹. It has the potential to substantially reduce Australian carp populations, with impacts likely to be increased when used in an integrated carp management control program.

About KHV:

KHV is highly specific to carp, including the 'koi' ornamental variety, and only causes death in carp, with no other fish known to be affected, even the closely related goldfish. Carp-

goldfish hybrids appear to be much less susceptible to KHV than pure carp. Australia does not have any native fish species that are closely related to carp², so they are not

susceptible to KHV. There are approximately 100 other known herpesviruses in other species, with at least one herpesvirus for each species studied. Most people would have been infected by at least one of the eight known human herpesviruses, such as the one that causes common cold sores. KHV does not affect humans.

KHV first appeared in Israel in 1998, although it may have appeared in the United Kingdom or Germany a little earlier. It spread rapidly to other parts of the world including Japan, Indonesia and North America. Mortality (death) rates of 70–100% were recorded in all age groups of carp in several countries³. It now has a worldwide distribution with the exception of South America, Australia and New Zealand.

KHV is a water-borne virus and is highly contagious. Viral particles in water may be active for up to three days. New outbreaks of the disease can be expected when fish are stressed or in large aggregations. Clinical signs of disease are most common when water temperatures are 22–27°C. Almost no deaths occur outside this range, and there is virtually no occurrence of the disease above 30°C or below 15°C. The first symptoms of KHV in carp are uncoordinated movements and erratic swimming. Clinical signs are gill and skin necrosis (tissue death) and multiple organ failure. Tests have shown that death occurs within a few days of first exposure to the virus and usually

within a day from the first appearance of any clinical signs of infection³. Infected carp appear healthy one

day, lethargic the next and dead within a few hours. Herpesviruses can cause repeated infection. Although KHV usually causes death in carp, some fish do survive infection and these fish then become carriers of the virus, spreading it to susceptible carp. Goldfish can also carry KHV without showing signs of disease.

Planning for KHV release:

KHV has the potential to be an effective biological control agent for carp. However, before KHV can be released it must go through a formal evaluation process coordinated by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). This will require more detailed scientific assessment and the development of a release and monitoring strategy. The plans for further work to begin in July 2012 are as follows:

- Science to support the release of KHV in Australia — CSIRO will further test native species for susceptibility to KHV in accordance with the requirements of the APVMA and the Australian Government's environment department.
- KHV release and monitoring strategy — A release strategy will be designed to take advantage of known vulnerabilities of carp. For example, the onset of the disease is related to temperature and to stress levels in the fish, so it will be important to choose the right time and the right site for release of the virus. Fish massing in large

numbers for spawning would be an ideal target for the virus. A monitoring and evaluation strategy will be designed to track the spread and impact of the virus. • KHV registration application package — Through close liaison with the APVMA, the information requirements for registration of KHV will be determined. All of the information needed will be

assembled and the package will go through the APVMA risk evaluation and consultation process. Approval for KHV release in Australia will depend on funding and research progress. If approvals are granted, the target for release of KHV is early 2017.

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

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