

# SOUTHERN BRISBANE SPORT FISHING CLUB



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## APRIL / MAY NEWS LETTER Next Meeting .. 6th June 7.00pm Monday..

Hello from the Ed. Apologies to all for the missing April news letter, No excuse really , but I was fishing a lot!

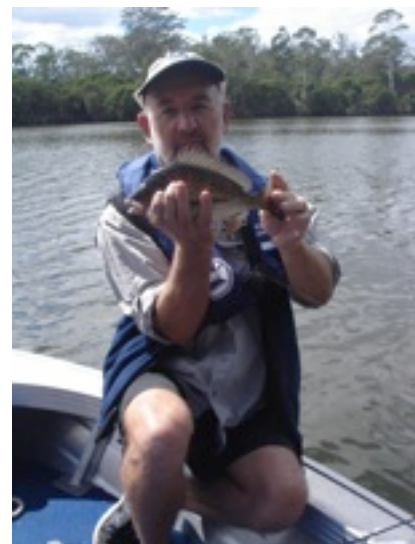
Reminder from John Eldred on (07) 3272 1605 Mob 0428 724100 [eldred2@bigpond.com](mailto:eldred2@bigpond.com) for the payment of memberships. Cash or EFT are the preferred methods because cheques require a bank visit to deposit and bank fees occur. Also, a reminder for starters for the Burrum Heads that a 50% deposit or payment in full if they prefer is required. Full cost per bed/week is \$140.00 therefore the 50% deposit is \$70.00. Again cash or EFT are the preferred method. Both the trip deposit and the annual dues are due 1/7/2011. Separate EFT deposits into the club account for the membership and trip deposit will make my job easier as will some identification of who is making the deposit. Either an email to me or a comment attached to the EFT transaction will do the trick. Account number: **30814236** BSB: **814282**

### Travelling & Fishing East Gippsland By Trevor & Glenys

Ever read those stories in the fishing media about those big southern black bream that seem to make our yellowfin bream fade into insignificance? Well in March, Glenys and myself set off on a drive of discovery, that hopefully would add some new species and experiences to our fishing lifestyle. After having so much wet weather over summer, the hope that we would dodge it in Victoria, was to prove only partly successful.

The BT50 was packed, and with the Stacer in tow, we headed south for the first and major destination, Mallacoota Inlet, just over the NSW border. We survived the drive past Newcastle and around Sydney. As we travelled south, we moved onto Prince's Highway. South of Wollongong, we relaxed and checked out possible future destinations for retirement travels. One feature stood out, and that was the number of tidal lakes like the Womboyn , Wallagah, along with some great looking rivers, the Shoalhaven, Clyde , Pambula and Kiah to name a few. We called into Tathra and visited the famous wharf that is famous for it's land based game fishing. Watched a striped tuna of about 3kg fought and landed (the wharf is about 8m high) on a bream spin outfit.

First day, a recce from the bottom to top, about 20km. We moved right up into the Genoa, which like a lot of Gippsland streams runs a tannin colour and badly silted. The stream side trees are the habitat of colonies of Bellbirds, which are continually "chiming". With the small tidal movement, the structures are coated with small barnacles with the intertidal zone. The first cast of the trip produced a legal Southern Bream, 4 casts later another. How easy is this? The next 2 hits were from Flathead, and with the 2kg leaders, you know what happened. The Minnkota decided to stop operating , so that made the Bream spinning a bit difficult. Ah well, back to Flathead trolling.



# Southern Brisbane Sport Fishing Club

We did just that, and Mallacoota is definitely Victoria's flathead hotspot. The regulations have a minimum size of 27cm which was 25cm recently, and a bag limit of 10, with one over 60cm, and we saw plenty of 27cm fish being cleaned, but a 1m fish was caught off jetty while we were there. Actually in their fishing regs publication, they actually mention that sizes and bag limits had to be changed, because of the extra pressure the increased use of soft plastics had put on the resource.

We didn't use plastics, we trolled minnows Queensland style, and brained them. Where we found some tide run at the lake mouth and along the lake shore, where 100m out there was a drop off from clean sand 60cm deep to a weed bottom at 1.5m. Trolling for Flathead is not widely done in Victoria.

A little story to illustrate. Fellow campers from Victoria, Bob & Sue; We had supplied a couple of fish feeds to them, and he naturally asked how we caught them. I explained, and offered to take Bob out. He said he had to go and buy a couple of lures at the local tackle shop. The conversation with the storeperson went like this. Bob "where are your flathead lures" Tackleshop "There is wall full of them over there" Bob "there aren't any of the right sort (deep diving 50 to 60cm minnows)" Tackleshop "why do you want them" Bob "a mate in the van park has been killing the flathead trolling them" Tackleshop "that's a load of crap, that won't work here, he's been bullshitting you". Bob found a "one" that fitted the bill, caught the 3 biggest flathead he has ever caught, and a Silver Trevally. He was so stoked he went up to Merimbula the next day and and bought a boat. The moral of the story, listen to the locals, remember the spots, but don't fish their way.

We pulled out of Mallacoota after 2 weeks, headed west to Lakes Entrance and the weather that devastated Wilson's Promontory in March. The Gippsland Lakes are another magnificent area that we will return to, but the foul weather wasn't conducive to fishing, so we headed north into the Victorian Alps to Omeo

Omeo van park has Livingstone Creek running alongside with campsites only 10m from it's banks. A recce at dusk saw the telltale swirls of rising trout. Breaking out a spin rod loaded with a #2 celta, saw about 6 hits in the first retrieve. The results for the evening a couple of 20cm Brown Trout, another first. We had good look around the Alps, checking out the streams, the Mitta Mitta, Cobungra, Bendarra, all trout streams with excellent free camping areas, courtesy Victorian National Parks spaced along them. Managed to pull a small Rainbow out of one, but saw heaps. If you are into gold mining history, this is the place. Every town still standing and many now abandoned, were founded on gold discoveries. The remains of gold mining machinery are scattered throughout the Gippsland bush.

Heading north over the mountains, our next stop was Beechworth, of gold mining and Ned Kelly fame. The caravan park was on the shores of Lake Sambell, a flooded gold mining pit left by hydraulic mining. In the town centre, reclaimed and landscaped, a boat ramp and stocked with Yellowbelly, Trout Cod, Redfin and Rainbow Trout. Again an evening flick with a celta produces a 30cm Rainbow. Again heading North over the next week, we called into Dartmouth Dam, Lake Hume on the Murray, along the river past Lake Mulwala, back into Victoria to Yarrawonga. Back through Cobram and again into NSW at Tocumwal. Our now tight schedule precluded fishing stops. The Murray is running magnificently, with the redgum forests having been flooded. We came back through Narrandera, visited the John Lake Inland Fisheries Centre on the Murrumbidgee River and their magnificent aquarium display. A one metre Murray Cod along with Trout Cod and Macquarie Perch which they are now breeding successfully. The first stocking of Macquarie Perch was done recently in a secret location, and Trout Cod going into the upper Murrumbidgee.

Up the Newell Highway and home having done 6000km. Lessons – you take too much gear, and leave some at home which you could have used. You can't travel and fish properly at the same time. You need at least a week in a fishing location, even longer. I already knew all this, but did it just the same, but Gippsland is place we will return to.



# Southern Brisbane Sport Fishing Club

## On the Grey Nomad Trail

By Tom Wallbank.

Dianne and I recently purchased a slide-on pop-top van to go on our ute and hit the trail in late February as apprentice grey nomads. We have even attended a couple of 'happy hours' where a couple of seasoned nomads took us under their wing to show us the ropes! Seems I am a slow learner. Upon returning from an afternoon fishing session and was late for happy hour held from 5-6pm, I was reprimanded, not only for being late but also for double dipping. Grey nomad speak for fishing twice in one day. Apparently I should have been having a nannie knap!



Our first stop was Glen Lyon Dam which was 98% at the time, one of my favourite dams, and now Dianne's after her first visit. Our fishing was restricted to areas from the ramp to the caves and the mouth of Stockyard Creek due to gear box problems. The majority of fish came from the points and timbers near the caves in 12-15 ft of water. 60-70mm purple lures caught the most fish with yellow scoring fish when the sun was high in the sky and black late afternoon when the sun was off the water.

There was a lot of small Golden Perch with the average being about one keeper for every three caught. The average keeper size was around 35cm with the odd fish over 40cm. The better quality fish were being caught further up the dam earlier in the week by the bait brigade at the 'Cod run'. They were scoring fish regularly around 45cm, fishing 12ft down in 20-30ft among the sticks. Later in the week they found it hard to catch fish, and we eventually had company, as some of the nomads reverted to lures to catch a feed. For some reason, spinnerbaits were unsuccessful.

Legal Cod were hard to find - the best we caught were two at 58cm. On the afternoon of the day we arrived, 2 fishers caught 16 Cod between 4-7.30pm (one of them lived in a house overlooking the dam, so there was some local knowledge involved). Six of these were legal, the best being 93cm. They said they were trolling large lures (100-120mm) at about 12ft in the bay on the right hand side up towards the dam wall. When word got out the next day, the nomads gave it a flogging, but as usual it was a case of 'you should have been there yesterday'. The only other legal Cod caught while we were there was by a nomad who reckons you'll starve fishing with lures. He caught a 64cm Cod with a 120mm 'Elton John' Barra Classic, the only large lure he owned, while trolling back from an unsuccessful trip drowning shrimps in the sticks. Don't you love it!

While we were there 350,000 Silver and Golden Perch fingerlings were released into the dam. We released about 50,000 of them at a secret spot and it will cost you to know where that is!

From Glen Lyon we moved on to Pindari Dam. The limited camp sites were full so we didn't stay. Talking to a couple who were camping there, the story was similar to Glen Lyon, plenty of GP's being caught, but Cod were scarce.

Our next destination was Copeton Dam, but before then we had a gear box to be repaired, resulting in having a day to fill in at Inverell. As it happened, my brother-in-law leases a pub there, giving us somewhere to keep cool while we waited for the repairs to be completed.



Locals said Copeton reached 80% from 4% however the official figures were a peak of 58% up from 4%. When we arrived it was back to 46% and still dropping, probably the reason for the fishing being so tough. Previously, plenty of Yellas and the odd good Cod were being caught. We caught five Redfin and two small Cod in five days. Bait fishers were bringing home a feed of Redfin and cattie's daily, but no GP's. I only heard of one Yella being caught. A park Ranger and a local, who holidays at the dam, caught some nice Cod casting spinnerbaits walking the banks of the McIntyre River early morning and late afternoon.

## Southern Brisbane Sport Fishing Club

Copeton has plenty of excellent bush camping sites around the dam as well as the powered sites. With a large surface area it contains plenty of fishy looking treed areas along with granite boulders, some of which are just below the surface and can catch the unwary.

After a couple of weeks delay we were back on the road in March, this time to Borumba where we caught up with our 'nomad teachers'. The scenery at Borumba is so beautiful and such a pleasure to be on the water that catching fish is a bonus. Just as well because on my previous two trips there I only caught two small Bass. Third time lucky? so it turned out. Had a ball trolling for Bass and landing my first Southern Toga.

Arriving at the same time as a southerly change, things didn't look too good and being told that the Golden Snappers had gone off the bite and only small Bass being caught. When I enquired what they were using (spinnerbaits, hard bodies or plastics?) nope none of those – it was shrimp. Of course I was talking to grey nomads.

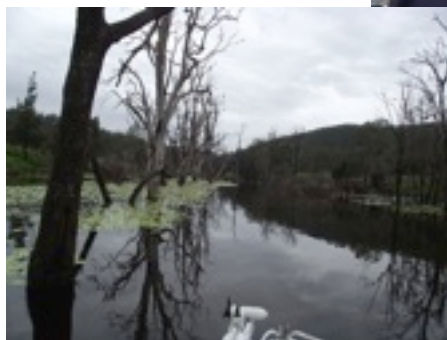
The first day on the water I dropped the electric at the beginning of Kingaham Creek arm and proceeded to cast spinnerbaits, my target being Saratoga. Four hours had passed and I was to the end of the dam, my arm was practically out of its socket and hadn't received so much as a sniff of a strike. Time for some lunch and a change of tactics.

Ahead of us was a narrow stretch of water for about 200m where Kingaham Creek was flowing into the dam. There was plenty of sunken and standing timber on either side with a scattering of lilly pads. Off went the spinnerbait, on went a small lure, up came the electric and the 4 stroke was fired up. Time to see if we could troll up a Bass. Five minutes had passed when something hammered the tiny lure. At first I thought I had a PB Bass but this was dispelled when the fish leapt from the water. My first Southern Toga, if I can get it to the net. I managed this only to see that the treble not connected to the fish, foul in the net and the fish rolled out. Bugger, was one of the tamer words used. Back in the water went the small gold lure. Only a minute had passed and we were connected again. This time there was no mistake and I was holding up my first Southern Toga for a picture.

We continued to troll this section of water for the rest of the afternoon catching plenty of Bass, the best being 39cm and a GP of the same size, most of which took a liking to purple lures, but no more Toga.

Next day it would have been easy to return to Kingaham Creek, but we wanted to see what was in the Yabba Creek arm. We started at the junction with Ingham Creek arm and trolled our way up, landing six Bass on the way. As with the other arm, the best fishing was where the creek flowed into the dam – but no Toga.

Early on the third day saw us trolling the end of Kingaham Creek arm again where we achieved similar results – a couple of Toga early this time on purple lures. Then the Bass took over, but still nothing over 40cm.



# SBSFC

The fourth day we awoke to showers and decided to fish the main basin and at the same time catch a feed of Red Claw.

The fishing was the slowest we had experienced for the trip, just six fish landing two legal GP's, (one off the boat ramp), one legal Bass and three smaller Bass. However, we caught plenty of Red Claw and as with other dams, the bottom was alive with them.

The fifth day was washed out when heavy rain. This left us with only one day. It wasn't raining in the morning but was overcast. As we had caught the Toga on two occasions trolling with the outboard, I was curious how we would go with the electric casting up the top of Kingaham Creek, we named 'Toga Alley'. Within the first 20 min I hooked and landed a 38 and 35 cm Bass spinnerbait, but no Toga.

The rest of the morning I had heaps of strikes and half hook-ups but no more fish were landed. On returning to the main basin, the skiers reminded me it was time to pull up the Red Claw traps, pack up and head home but not before attending another grey nomad lesson (happy hour)! .....To be continued!



## Coochin Creek Trip

Rain was the main theme of this trip, We all negotiated the water logged road in to the house that we were all sharing for the week end. I was supposed to put up signs to guide every one in. The signs had the club logo on and looked good in theory, but gave up on that idea with it being so wet and stuck with fluoro ribbon tied to all the forrest post numbers. Lloyd was my offsider, and it was his job to get out and tie the pretty ribbons on, he winged a lot, and one time disappeared down a very deep wet hole. The grass in front of the house was indeed very boggy and soon looked like a baja race track by the time all the 4WDs and boats had taken up position for launching and hopefully fishing. It was a shame that the creek mouth connecting to the Bribie channel was silted up, as it made it hard to get in or out into the channel other than at high tide.

The tides did not correspond with any sensible waking hours.

The fishing was hard and basically shut down, as the water was still dirty from all the rains previously. A few crabs, flathead and bream were caught, with a few feeds amongst them. But, as usual, when you have 11 guys away on their own, a good time was had by all. We enjoyed the Stories the Food, and lots of Alcohol. Even me telling something about not being able to sit down comfortable. ( You had to be there!!! ) The house was very well appointed, clean and the hot showers were very welcome and could be recommended. There was a smaller house to rent as well and would suit couples. All in all not the best fishing trip but a good trip never the less. Mal



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The road ? in to Coochin Creek

Mr Lure World him self, did some damage over the week end. A....Found a solitary rock in a 100ft wide river. B.... Managed to rip of his sounder transducer when launching or retrieving boat over what was or is, called a boat ramp!! Never mind Kevin!!!



Hurray we made it

## Club Logos for Shirts and Stickers for Boats

Michael James has had a number of large and small boat stickers printed, and these are available for sale at every meeting.  
COST- Small \$1; Large \$5

Just a reminder - for \$10.00 you can have the SBSFC logo embroidered onto your own shirt. Bring your dress shirt / polo shirt or fishing shirt to the meeting with \$10.00 and it will be back at the following meeting. The \$10.00 fee includes a \$1.00 levy that will go towards reimbursing the club for the \$75.00 set up cost.

### Classifieds

**For Sale-** Motorguide Bow mounted electric motor, Foot Control. Hardly Used! 54lbs freshwater model. \$350. Good Condition. Contact Mal on 0402 901 511

**For Sale-** Fly Fishing Vest (Made by Englands) Polar Insulated and fitted with an inflatable Life preserver Pull to inflate or inflates on water submersion. Short Type, Green and in a as new condition. Size M. Original Purchase price 350 English pounds. Offers .Contact Mal on 0402 901 511

**For Sale-** Fly fishing rods and reels plus other jackets Contact Mal on 0402 901 511

To place an ad, simply e-mail or give the info to Mal Brown. [brownpipe8@gmail.com](mailto:brownpipe8@gmail.com)

# Southern Brisbane Sport Fishing Club

## Lending Library List

The club library has the following items available for borrowing by the members. They are available at our monthly club meetings. A \$20 deposit will be required please, just to make sure they come back at the next meeting.

ET's Bass and Barra Fishing	Flathead Study (cd-rom)
Gently Does it when releasing fish - booklet and DVD	Queensland's Offshore Fishing Guide (NAFA / Tourism Queensland)
Gillies Introduction to Fly Fishing	Evinrude Etec DVD
Squidgy Secrets - Part 1 Basics	Zed Lure field test series 2004 parts 1 to 4
The Kayak Fishing Video (On DVD)	Fishing DVD volumes 1, 2 & 7
Basic Bait Fishing (DVD)	Ray Bricknell's Kimberly Barra Adventure DVD
Queensland's Freshwater Fishing Impoundment Guide (NAFA / Tourism Queensland)	

### **NOTE: - The Bowls Club has a Bar.**

Serves tea and coffee, also has food if you get there early. Plenty of parking.

### **Swap or sell table**

**Please remember the gear swap table at the meeting – bring your swaps or items for sale.**

**This can be a great club facility if we all use**

**New Members please note meetings start at 7.00pm on the first monday of the month.**

Prospective Members reading this Newsletter will be made very welcome at any Club meeting – so please come along and check us out at our next meeting on the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Single membership - \$60.00 p.a. Family Membership - \$80.00 p.a. Student (over 16) - \$20.00 p.a. Child (under 16) no parent in club- \$20.00 . Child (under 16) parent in club- \$10.00

### **USEFUL NUMBERS & WEB SITES:**

SE Qld Boating Weather 1300 360 428: Qld Marine Warnings 1300 360 427: Fish watch Hotline 1800 017 116  
 Bureau of meteorology <http://www.bom.gov.au/index.shtml>: Sweetwater fishing <http://sweetwaterfishing.com.au/>  
 Crab pot Theft Hotline 1800 017 116: Bonzer imports <http://www.bonzerimports.com/>  
 Coast watch [www.coastwatch.com.au](http://www.coastwatch.com.au): SEQ kayak fishing <http://members.optusnet.com.au/aus-kayak-fishing/>  
 Southern Brisbane Sportsfishing Club <http://www.sbsfc.org/>

### **SPECIAL DEALS FOR OUR MEMBERS**

#### **Danny Hughes -Fishing Tackle Restoration**

He also has 2<sup>nd</sup> hand good quality reels & rods for sale at all times. He does the Reel / Rod Repairs for Mossop's, Fish Head etc. **Call Danny on Mobile Ph 0438 012 629**

**R.T.L. Trailers** Very economical trailer manufacture and repairs a good tradesman too. **Call Mark on 3287 4241**

**Yatala Outboard Wrecking** Gary and Trent specialising in used parts to suit all outboard makes and models.

They also do repairs and service work. 7 Old Pacific Highway, Yatala. [www.outboardwrecking.com.au](http://www.outboardwrecking.com.au) **Call 38072488**

#### **Gem Bait and Tackle**

OPEN 7 DAYS.... 281 JACOBS WELL ROAD, ALBERTON 4207 PHONE 3287 3868 FAX 3807 8018

Monday to Friday 5.00am – 7.00pm Saturday & Public holidays 4.30am – 7.00pm Sundays 4.30am – 6.00pm

Petrol. Oil. Diesel. LP Gas. Groceries, Fruit, News Agency, Takeaways, Ice, Tackle, Fresh and Frozen bait, Dip Permits, NSW licences