



Southern Brisbane Sportfishing Club Inc.

P.O. Box 5057,
Eagleby. Q 4207
Secretary: Ray Bricknell
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Newsletter

March, 2005

Next Meeting

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY 7 March, 2005 at the Neighbourhood Centre, Mansfield Walk, Beenleigh (between the roundabout and Crete St).

The venue can be accessed for off street parking via Kent Street (behind the Police station), or via James Street, just up from the Court House. Otherwise, park in James Street and walk behind the Gold Coast City Council branch office.

NOTE:- We have a Bar. *Please respond to the calls for member input in this Newsletter.*

**MEMBERSHIP FEES – New Members Please pay
at March meeting – Adult \$30 to 30/6/05.**

Single membership is \$55.00 p.a. - Family Membership is \$75.00 p.a.

MARCH TRIP

11-12-13 March 2005 – Hervey Bay – Trip Sheet attached. **EARLY BOOKINGS REQUIRED.**
Trip Captain – Dave Weston – Phone 3341 1444 or 0413 590 288.

Guest Speaker: Jay Morgan from Mossop's: "Soft Plastics – All the Secrets Revealed".

Future Trips: See list below – last page of Newsletter. This is the 2005 Trips Calendar as it currently stands.

Committee Members: See below – at end of Newsletter.

Acknowledgement: This Newsletter was kindly copied by Kay Elsom's office at no charge to the club.

MUD ISLAND SNAPPER

John Cumberland (JC) & Lloyd Willmann fished Mud Island for the first time on Saturday 5th February. We put in at Fishermans Island at Dawn & proceeded to an area at the Sth/West end of Mud Island.

Fished with 3" & 4" Bass Minnow Power Baits (soft plastics) on 1/8, 1/6 & 1/4 oz jigheads, used the outgoing tide & Sth/Easterly wind to drift over an area of approx. 20FT in depth with a rubbly bottom.

Mainly let the boat action work the soft plastics. Best Snapper was 65cm & another at 45cm, with a lot of 'just under-sized' "Snapper" released. (Is there such a thing as an under-sized Snapper, squire? Red Bream?)

This area can be fished by small boats as long as there is a reasonable wind forecast. It wont be the last time JC & Lloyd fish Mud.

A tip for the Fishermans Island, best to launch early as parking area has been reduced & fills up quickly.

Editor's Note: They went back at 4am on Saturday 19 Feb and sadly did not catch a single legal sized fish.



SPECIAL DEALS

If any member comes across any special deals on goods or services which you think might be of interest to other members, please let the Secretary/ Newsletter Editor know, and we'll include them in the Newsletter. **For example:** If any member needs help with learning how to use a computer, or to use new programs, there is a guy in Beenleigh who will train you for \$20 per hour. **That's right – not the usual \$55 to \$99 per hour charged by computer Tech Heads, but \$20 per hour.** His Name is Paul Jones, and his contact numbers are 3807 2384; Mob 0410 380 320.

BRIBIE ISLAND SFC INTERCLUB 2005.

Ray Bricknell and his mate Ken Park represented SBSFC at the recent Bribie Island SFC Interclub 2005 Comp, and we are pleased to report it was a very pleasant weekend, and one worth supporting in the future. The weather was hot and still – to the point where the glassy water made boating ‘outside’ easy, but spooked the fish – and the event was very well organised by club President Jeffrey Sorrell and his team. A total of about 57 people from numerous clubs registered.

Not a lot of fish were caught, and most competitors appear to have chosen to fish offshore. Even the offshore catches were relatively small – mostly Mackerel Tuna and the like. One 25 Kg Black Marlin was tagged and released, but even that was a ‘baby’ in Black Marlin terms.

At the briefing on Friday night one of the Bribie locals said there were ‘plenty of Flathead about, but seldom over 50 cm’. So Brickers, in his little 3.7 m tinnie which is restricted to protected waterways, opted to fish for Flathead. It is sadly noteworthy that not a single Flathead was weighed in for the comp.

An interesting feature of this comp, and one which reflects well on the organisers, was the way the sponsorship prizes were raffled. Comp winners were presented with framed Certificates, but won no prizes. The entire \$10,000 worth of sponsorship prizes, ranging from a new 2.2 HP Yamaha Outboard down to spools of line and a pile of fishing magazines, were raffled as ‘lucky door prizes’. As each name was drawn it was placed in a

separate box, so literally everyone present – and you had to be present to win a prize – won something. Each winner in turn had the pick of the stand. Then they drew all the names out a second time, and a third time – Ken and Ray each came home with about \$250 worth of very useful prizes.

We complimented Jeffrey and his Committee on a job well done, and promised to tell the members of the SBSFC about their excellent weekend comp.

Let’s make an effort to be much better represented next year – it is a good trip for our club – not far to travel, and a wide range of choices as to how and where to fish – even the nearby stocked catchments are allowed as competition fishing locations.

REPORT – LAKE MONDURAN

As was noted at the February meeting, your Newsletter Editor was up at Lake Monduran for a few days from 7 February, chasing Barra. It is a somewhat amusing story, even though the fishing came a bad second because my wife and I were actually on a motoring holiday in the area with another couple – we just ‘happened’ to choose the new air-conditioned en suite cabins at Lake Monduran as our base. I only got in about five or six relatively short sessions of fishing, early morning and late afternoon.

Whilst at Lake Awoonga last November Lloyd Willmann had a visitation from an Apostle of his acquaintance – you’ll have to ask Lloyd for the details of that ‘visitation’! At any rate, the Apostle had a lot of experience of fishing for Barra in the

top end, and he said the acknowledged folklore is that Barra bite best in hot, still conditions.

Well, let me tell you – it was bloody hot and bloody still – at least for some of the time – at Lake Monduran (near Gin Gin) in February. I fished my first session with a six inch soft plastic – I think it was a Squidgy called Silver Fox or something similar. At any rate, it looked and swam so much like a bait fish that I was quite sure no hungry Barra could resist it. Of course, we all know the Barra in stocked catchments don't know what it is like to be hungry – food abounds in their environment. After almost two hours of casting into – and getting hooked around – submerged treetops, not a single Barra had shown the slightest interest in my Squidgy. In fact, it was starting to look the worse for wear. The body of the 'fish' had pulled away from the jighead, and after a while it would simply not stay up hard against the jighead. **See *Helpful Hints* further on.** Then I switched to an old tried and proven Barra lure, covered in teeth marks and with a fairly fierce swimming action. I only had about twenty minutes left to fish, and I didn't have time to rig up a heavier line, so I took my chances with some 10 or 12 pound mono on a light rod.

Within five minutes a Barra had tried to grab the lure just as I was about to lift it out of the water at the end of a retrieve. Then, about fifteen minutes later, it was on for young and old. The Barra – I choose to believe it was a Barra, even though it didn't break the surface – took my lure for a good run. Trouble was. The bugger decided to swim around a submerged tree – and that was the end of

that hook-up, and that favourite old lure! That was during an afternoon session, by the way.

During another short – late afternoon – session, again using a similar lure, but this time on 17 pound mono, another decent sized Barra – again, I choose to believe it was a Barra – took a similar lure for a spectacular (below the surface) run. Once again I had tempted him out of a submerged tree, and once again he took a left turn around another submerged tree soon after taking the lure. I held him for a short time, desperately trying not to put too much strain on the line, but he was a big fish, and eventually had little trouble snapping my line.

A few minutes later an amazing thing happened. There was a mighty swirl in the water about twenty or thirty feet from my boat – a fish apparently did a figure eight not far below the surface. It was done with such force and gusto that two mini whirlpools soon appeared on the surface, each rotating in the opposite direction to the other. Then, when I looked back to that same spot a few minutes later, there was my lure – floating on the surface. The fish had managed to shake it free!

And now, for those who (like John Eldred) believe I couldn't throw an accurate cast to save my life – comes the finale. Too lazy to move the boat to the floating lure, I thought: "I'll cast another lure over there and retrieve it that way". I got it on the second cast, John! A Bullseye!

Footnote: There are only four cabins at Lake Monduran each comfortably sleeping three guys, and one of those is already booked for the week of our proposed club Barra trip there in November this

year (refer to Trips Calendar attached). There is also a holiday house available about 100 meters or so from the cabins. I have booked the three cabins for our club, but they won't hold them for long without a 50% deposit, and they have a fairly severe cancellation policy. **Hence, would those planning to go on this trip please book one cabin each from Friday 11th to Friday 18th, to ensure we have all three of the remaining cabins tied up for the week?** Please let Ray Bricknell know as soon as you have booked a cabin. We'll arrange for others to share the cabins with you as we get closer to the time of the trip. THIS IS URGENT AND IMPORTANT IF WE ARE TO GET ENOUGH ACCOMMODATION IN THE ONE PLACE TO MAKE THIS A GOOD TRIP.

HELPFUL HINTS

Shortly after returning from Lake Monduran, I was reading a magazine – 'Fishing Queensland Annual, Vol. 6' – which I had won at the Bribie Island SFC prize draw. I came across the following in a 'highlights' box headed **Soft Hints**:

“Carry a small container of Supa Glue when fishing soft plastics. Some strikes – and snags – will pull the tail away from the jighead, and **fish will not bite when this happens.** (My emphasis). A dab of glue on the jighead will hold the body in place. It can also be used to repair tears in the tail of the soft plastic.

Elsewhere in the same magazine I also found these words of wisdom:

“When Barra fishing, point the rod directly at the lure and retrieve using a slow, steady action (Slow Rolling). This technique is more productive than jerking or jigging the plastic erratically.”

That may partly explain why I got no strikes on my soft plastic. I was retrieving the soft plastic exactly as I would a hard bodied lure. It seemed to swim realistically using that action.

Interestingly, the same box contained another hint which **might** also have improved my results at Lake Monduran:

“Most anglers new to fishing soft plastics have difficulty slowing down their retrieves, likely due to their reflexes having been honed by years of fishing hard bodied lures. Soft plastics should be fished slowly and gently and, on occasions, should even be left sitting still.”

If you ever come across hints like this which really strike a note as appearing to be good advice, please email them to me and I'll put them in the Newsletter – Ed.

Articles from Other Newsletters: We have not received many Newsletters from others since Christmas, but those we have received contained some interesting articles. I have included some extracts, with links to the full articles on the internet for those who have access. For those who don't – when are you going to get connected? This is the 21st Century, you know!

New Hook Reels Flathead In (Tasmania) 31 January 2005

Source:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200501/s1292359.htm>

Recreational fishermen have given a tick of approval to a new hook designed to minimise damage to undersized flathead.

Fishermen from the south of Tasmania have trialled a new hook that is rounded at the end and more likely to catch the fish in the jaw as opposed to the gut or gill.

Researchers believe it gives the fish a much stronger chance of survival when thrown back into the water.

Sport Fishing Association spokesman Nick Crawford says the hook performed well.

"It was surprising just how well they caught fish," he said.

"I think some of us thought they were going to be a bit of a battle, but they caught fish two-to-one for the people who did well with them."

Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute spokesman Dr Jeremy Lyle says preliminary research shows the hooks are successful.

"The catch rates are very good with the circle hook, the incidence of deep hooking is very, very low, so they are looking really good as an alternative to the standard gear that fishermen usually use," Dr Lyle said.

WEATHER REPORTS, Etc:

Old Boating Weather 1300 360 426

SE Old Boating Weather 1300 360 428

Old Marine Warnings 1300 360 427

Fishwatch Hotline 1800 017 116

Crabpot Theft Hotline 1800 017 116

(From BSFC Newsletter – Thanks, Jeremy)

Time to Book for BURRUM HEADS TRIP MAY 2005 with Brisbane SFC.

BSFC has a trip planned to Burrum Heads in May 2005, and SBSFC has included this trip in our 2005 Trips Calendar (attached). It is now time to see what interest there is so BSFC can book enough accommodation. Jeremy Arnold has kindly provided us with the following advance briefing.

"Burrum Heads is a quiet town between Hervey Bay and Bundaberg (see map) about 4 hours drive from Brisbane.

For the bluewater fisherman, the Woodgate Artificial reef is an easy 10 km from the heads, and I also have marks available for the 25 fathom hole, Burrum 7 mile, Burrum 8 mile, Woodgate 1 mile and Woodgate 2 mile reefs. This is red emperor and coral trout country!

The pelagics should be plentiful, and include mackerel, tuna, cobia, trevally, and also billfish further out. If the weather Gods are with us at that time of year we should also have the light westerlies which will glass it out, and you can then troll to NZ.

The Burrum River is a rock bar smorgasboard, and is renowned jack country all the way from the mouth right to the upper reaches. Trevally and queenfish are common in the lower reaches. Wild saltwater barra are also available. The Burrum is recognised for the run of Winter whiting in Autumn, and bream and flathead provide yet another option.

If you want to catch meter type Barra, you can drive back up the Highway to Mondurran Dam and fish the warm shallow bays and inlets.

The Club has booked two houses for three nights from Fri 29th to April 2nd. One house sleeps five and the second house six. We can fit one more person into each house if there is a couple who want to share a double bed. One house is fully fenced and the other fenced on the sides so we should be able to park all cars and boats off street and around the back.

We expect the total cost of accommodation for the three nights to be around \$50 per person, but this will of course depend on final numbers. We are asking for a \$20 deposit to secure a spot, and we already have indications from 6-8 club members who are likely to go. If there is enough interest we can book another house, but we will need to know early as this is a long weekend.

We have invited the Southern Brisbane Sportfishing Club along also, so we hope to have some sort of a friendly competition and a bit of social interaction. For fishing reports on the area try www.fishingmonthly.com.au and search their archives. Over the coming months we will get GPS marks and more info on the area.

Deposits (\$20) to David Marsh please, and all other enquiries to Peter Gannon.

Footnote: Ray Bricknell has asked Jeremy Arnold to book him a bed, and has sent his \$20 deposit to David Marsh. Let's make sure SBSFC is well

represented on this "different" trip to a new area (for many of us). **BOOK NOW PLEASE!**
david@aus-traders.com.au – Ph 3395 2525;
0409 898 800. Mail deposit cheques to:
PO Box 1022
Fortitude Valley
Qld 4006

WORMS ON A HOOK DON'T SUFFER, EXPERTS FIND (NORWAY) 8 February 2005

Source:

<http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/29405/story.htm>

Worms squirming on a fishhook feel no pain -- nor do lobsters and crabs cooked in boiling water, a scientific study funded by the Norwegian government has found.

"The common earthworm has a very simple nervous system -- it can be cut in two and continue with its business," Professor Wenche Farstad, who chaired the panel that drew up the report, said on Monday.

Norway might have considered banning the use of live worms as fish bait if the study had found they felt pain, but Farstad said: "It seems to be only reflex curling when put on the hook ... They might sense something, but it is not painful and does not compromise their well-being." (Continued Over)
The government called for the study on pain, discomfort and stress in invertebrates to help in the planned revision of Norway's animal protection law. Invertebrates cover a range of creatures from insects and spiders to mollusks and crustaceans. Farstad said most invertebrates, including lobsters and crabs boiled alive, do not feel pain because, unlike mammals, they do not have a big (enough) brain to read the signals.

Some more advanced kinds of insects, such as honeybees which display social behaviour and a capacity to learn and cooperate, deserve special care, she said.

"We have particular responsibility for animals that we have in our custody. That is not a scientific opinion, but the ethical side of the issue," Farstad said.

Handling and releasing large barramundi.

DPI&F researcher, Alf Hogan, has undertaken research into the effects of catching and releasing large barramundi. He has produced a CD of his findings and provides advice on how to handle barramundi correctly.

Visit www.info-fish.net/releasefish/files/348/rad4F9A0.pdf

More than 1000 youngsters attend DPI&F Kids Fishing Clinics

Some 1160 youngsters and their families have fronted up to the DPI&F Kids Fishing Clinics to learn the secrets of tying a rig, baiting a hook and casting a line.

Visit

www.dpi.qld.gov.au/news/NewsReleases/16833.html

Boating and fishing enthusiasts urged to check rules – Hervey Bay area.

DPI&F is urging boating and fishing enthusiasts in Hervey Bay to double check regulations after a number of publications issued in the area were found to contain incorrect information.

Visit

www.dpi.qld.gov.au/news/NewsReleases/16845.html

Scientists find smart ways to boost fishing industries

DPI&F researchers in Cairns are undertaking pioneering work that has the potential to revolutionise the State's fishing industry and add enormous value to Queensland's economy.

Visit <http://statements.cabinet.qld.gov.au/cgi-bin/display-statement.pl?id=5072&db=media>

New marine park to boost tourism for Fraser Coast area

Establishing a Great Sandy Marine Park will protect the Fraser Coast's precious whales, turtles, dugongs and other marine life, increase fish stocks and boost tourism.

Visit <http://statements.cabinet.qld.gov.au/cgi-bin/display-statement.pl?id=4942&db=media>

Researchers working to tackle Tilapia

DPI&F is working with researchers to contain a noxious fish infestation in the Burdekin catchment.

Visit

www.dpi.qld.gov.au/news/NewsReleases/16808.html

Heavy fines for cast netting – Burnett River

Recreational and commercial fishers are being advised they face steep fines if caught using cast nets to take prawns in the Town Reach closed waters of Bundaberg's Burnett River.

Visit

www.dpi.qld.gov.au/news/NewsReleases/16931.html

Souped up Sonar

A new sonar that sends out eight sonar signals to the ocean floor instead of one signal that current sonar devices use has been developed by a sonar design and development company.

Visit

www.abc.net.au/ra/innovations/stories/s1279475.htm

Too Late to Save the Reef (Great Barrier Reef)

Source:

<http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2005/02/11/1108061879117.html>

12 February 2005

The Great Barrier Reef's coral could disappear in as little as 20 years as sea temperatures rise faster than expected, a world expert on coral and climate change has warned.

Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, director of the Centre for Marine Studies at the University of Queensland, says bleaching will occur and coral will die regardless of what happens in the battle against global warming.

"It is shocking to wake up and realise we really are in a desperate time," he said. "We may see a complete devastation of coral communities on the reef and a major change to the pristine values, which at the moment are our pride and joy.

"We are likely to see corals rapidly disappear from great parts of the Barrier Reef, as it has already from large parts of the Caribbean."

The warning comes as The Age begins a three-part series on the Kyoto Protocol, which becomes international law on Wednesday.

Marine scientists are closely watching the coral, hoping the widespread bleaching of 1998 and 2002 are not repeated. In 1998, 16 per cent of the world's coral died after rising sea temperatures caused mass bleaching on almost every reef.

"We now have less time left," said Professor Hoegh-Guldberg. "Across the globe we should be rallying around as though we are facing a confrontation like a world war"...

Full article:

<http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2005/02/11/1108061879117.html>

To read the first in the three-part series by The Age on the Kyoto Protocol visit:

<http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2005/02/11/1108061868849.html>

To read Climate Change, Coral Bleaching and the Future of the World's Coral Reefs (1999)

by O. Hoegh-Guldberg go to:

http://www.greenpeace.org.au/climate/pdfs/coral_report.pdf

GEAR FOR SALE & WANTED

As a service to members, future editions of the Newsletter will contain a small section of For Sale & Wanted Ads. Only paid up members may use this facility. Ads should generally be restricted to fishing and boating related gear – but no value limits apply.

To place an ad, simply email its contents to the Editor. If you don't have access to email at home, you can send your email via a friend's computer, or you can use an Internet

Café facility – they are everywhere now. Beenleigh has at least three.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UPDATE

It is pleasing to be able to report that the first club meeting following our Local Fishing Expo was attended by 31 people, double our usual attendance. We now have a Prospective Members list with 20 names on it, all of whom are receiving this Newsletter, and in addition to this four new members have already joined and paid.

If you are a Prospective Member and you like what you are seeing of this club, please join up at the March meeting. You will be very welcome.

FUTURE TRIPS:

Please refer to the 2005 Trips Calendar attached.

For general enquiries about trips:

Contact the nominated Trip Captain, or John Cumberland:

Phone (07) 3801 1110

Mobile 0421 281 805

Email cumberlandj@powerup.com.au

COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Lloyd Willmann Ph:3287 3278

SECRETARY: Ray Bricknell Ph:3287 2668

TREASURER: Tom Wallbank Ph:5546 1880

ANSA REP: Lloyd Willmann Ph:3287 3278

TAG. OFFR: John Cumberland Ph: 3801 1110

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