



# NEWSLETTER

November 2006

***Hi, Gang!***

At our June meeting we welcomed two new members, **Rob Purcell** and **George Dlouhy**.

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You might want to add their details to your membership list.

Our club has grown in the past few months which is great to see. We now have 62 members which is up nearly 20% over our membership last year. The membership list will be up dated before long.

## **Coomera River Outing – Don Nash**

Eight souls braved the inclement conditions for the clubs Coomera River flathead fish. Teamed up with new club member Andrew Ledger we hit the water around 6 a.m. & decided to go up river to find somewhere out of the wind to wave our long wands. The tide was low and we noted some small creeks & decided to give them a go, no action so left them to give them a go when the tide was rising. We then fished the banks where the mangroves gave us some protection from the wind, Andrew scored a small flattie and I hooked up on what I reckoned was a ray and after a testy fight netted a large stingray. After all the media attention lately two very tentative fisho's survived removing the fly returning the ray to the water. We decided to fish a point off an island where we noted an eddy and fished it noting a lot of baitfish around. Andrew hit pay dirt landing a nice 51 cm. flattie & a small 30cm+. I was not having much luck so changed flies and was hit by something big landing my best flattie on fly at 52 cm. Then another 39cm to Andrew. The bite went off so we moved to the back of another island, sand flats & drop offs not much luck one small 30cm+ to Andrew & a few hits but no hook ups. Moved back to the point we had scored on before, still bait fish around another good fight & Andrew landed a good 43 cm flattie & me a 30cm+. Started to head back home noted another point dropped the pick, I had put on a red & black clouser. (We had both been using chartreuse & white clousers) Whack!! I was into something solid and after a good tussle landed my biggest flattie on fly at 59cm. Andrew in again with another 30cm+, he was having a top day. We headed home the count 7 flatties to Andrew and 5 to me plus 1 stingray, we had a great morning & wondered how the rest of the gang had fared. A good barby, a few drinks and good company. Team Ledger/Nash had won the day.

## **Bribie Island Meet and Greet (almost)**

We tried two weekends in a row to hold our M&G at Bribie, but the weather beat us and we decided to wait until conditions are more settled. Don Nash and Andrew Ledger went up to have a go anyway but while the weather at least allowed them to get out, the fish didn't want to play the game. A few brave souls from the Sunshine Coast also had a go with similar results. We will reschedule it for sometime in the not too distant future.

## **The 2006 Salt Water Fly Fishing Challenge - Bynoe Harbour, NT – Paul Goodey**

The excitement and anticipation of a fishing trip never ceases to amaze me, especially when you are off to fish a new destination and when the destination is the Bynoe Harbour Salt Water Fly Challenge. Well – the feelings are magnified again and again and I can only liken it to a child the night before Xmas.

All the flies have been tied, half a dozen different colours, sizes and patterns, fly lines wound onto the reels with new leaders attached. Everything checked and checked again.

Four of us set off - Mark Hosking, Ross Bodger, Mario Demaio and myself and after many drinks and many more miles – only just, we arrived in Darwin and met up with our hosts, fellow Darwin Flyrodders members Cathy, Roger & Gerry. They made us feel very welcome giving us all the good oil and what to expect at Bynoe Harbour.

The Salt Water Challenge is to catch seven species including Barramundi, Mackerel, Snapper, Salmon, Trevally, Queenfish and Tarpon. You receive points for every fish you catch and bonus points for the more species you catch. This year there were fourteen teams, with two anglers per boat. Ross and I teamed up as the “Woollybuggers.”

The resort we stayed at was Crab Claw Fisherman’s Island which holds a prime position overlooking the harbour boasting a swimming pool and a great bar and restaurant area which was most welcome after a hard day’s fishing – life’s tough sometimes! Apparently years ago it used to be a brothel servicing the pearl fishermen and other old sea dogs.

As the tide made its way swiftly up the boat ramp it was finally time for the late afternoon pre-fishing session before the competition began. Ross and I joined Roger on his boat and headed off to a place called Knife Island. This island hosted many features included rock and sand bars and was covered with mangroves. As we approached we could clearly see a couple of Barramundi moving along at the back of the mangroves too quickly to get a cast in but an adrenalin pumping intro to Knife Island. We started fishing the edges of the mangroves and managed to catch a few Queenfish and Trevally also getting busted up a couple of times. After the briefing that evening back at the Crab Claw, the beer was flowing as fast as the “B...S...” creating a great pre-comp atmosphere. We set off early the next morning in a 4 metre hire boat following Cathy and Roger till we had got our bearings.



*Bill (Crab Claw Owner) Paul G & Ross B*

The pre-dawn was glorious with a complete glass-off; you could see any movement for miles it seemed. 2-3 klm's later heading towards a big junction in the harbour we slowed down heading for a rocky shoreline which at low tide had a huge rock bar which proved to be a fish magnet. After anchoring we noticed immediately the Tarpon rolling and Queenfish busting up across the surface chasing bait fish – palpitation time again!! After composing myself long enough to thread the fly line through the guides and tie a fly on, Ross had beaten me and had already cast out and into a fish. It was the same with me – a double hook up on Queenfish straight away, what a great start. It carried on that way for a couple of hours managing to catch Trevally and Golden Snapper. When first arriving at this spot the rock bar was 2-3 feet under water and as the tide went out it was exposed 4-5 feet, the fishing slowed so we moved on following Cathy and Roger to another hotspot with almost the same result again. During the next couple of days Ross and I ventured off on our own and found some great rock bars, catching lots of fish, not always big fish but nevertheless plenty of them. In hindsight, we should have chased different species as far as the competition goes, however, to be honest being the first time up there we were happy catching fish and having ball.

To summarise: this is an eat/sleep total fly fishing extravaganza, everyone wins prizes including fly lines, T Shirts, yearly subscriptions to Flylife and even a weekend's accommodation at Crab Claw with the winners of the comp receiving cross current rods and depth sounders. It is a well run competition – well done Darwin Flyrodders and to our hosts Cathy, Roger and Gerry, your organization skills and friendliness are second to none, congratulations to Cathy as runner-up Champion Angler.

The fishing highlights for myself would be seeing the Barra moving in 2-3 feet of water along the mangrove edges, also seeing Queenfish crashing against the bait fish beaching themselves on the sand banks and Threadfin Salmon rolling around in really shallow snake drains and Mackerel busting up on the surface – always something happening, always something to cast to. With 5 metre tide changes, the scenery was constantly changing, it made for some challenging but great fishing. See you next year!



*Cathy, Gerry & the Queenslanders*

## For Sale

TFO tierx 7wt. Rod                    \$280  
TFO tier 10wt Rod                    \$250  
Velocity 3v Reel                    \$400 (Suit 6-7 wt) w/spare spool

Ring: Thomas Seebach (07) 5571 7825

## Next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November. At that time we will discuss our Bass outing at Byangum Bridge on the Tweed River.

## Tasmanian “One Fly” Competition – 2007 – Mark Hosking

This competition is on again over the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Held at Bronte Lagoon in the Central Highlands of Tasmania it is a great weekend. Brian Kirkley and I competed last year and had a fantastic time, meeting a great bunch of flyfishers. This year the organisers are putting up a “State of Origin” team trophy as there are a number of NSW and Victorian flyfishers who compete. It would be great to have a QLD team (4 people/team). At this stage I am going with a mate who I have fished with in Tassie for about 10 years, so we are looking for at least another 2 team members. It is not an expensive trip so if you are interested or want any further info either email me on [mark@s28.com.au](mailto:mark@s28.com.au) or see me at our November meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

## Remember

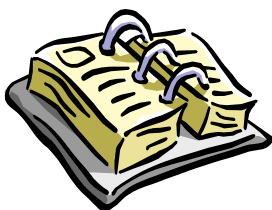
Our club Christmas lunch is on the 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Benowa Tavern. Bring your partner and children. The Tavern has a great area for kids and there is a lot of room for them to blow off steam. This is always a great gathering and it will cap off a great year for the club. Please let Tom Boylan know if you are coming so he can make the bookings. There will be no December meeting as it will fall too close to Christmas. At our January meeting we will make the **Angler of the Year** and the **Club Member of the Year** awards.

**Quote of the month: I smile because I don't know what the hell is going - Anon**

***Tight Lines and bent rods!***

***Scribe***

## Coming Events



## NEXT MEETING:

**Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov - 7.30 p.m.**  
**Mermaid Beach Bowls Club,**  
**9 Markeri Street, Mermaid Beach**

## NEXT FISHING TRIP:

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Byangum Bridge, Tweed River**  
**Target –Wild Bass**

South East Queensland Flyfishing Club Inc. – Contacts:

President	- Tom Boylan	5564 6660
Vice President	- Gary Sheppard	5563 7470
Secretary	- Mark Hosking	5598 3364
Treasurer	- Mark Miller	(02) 6672 4364
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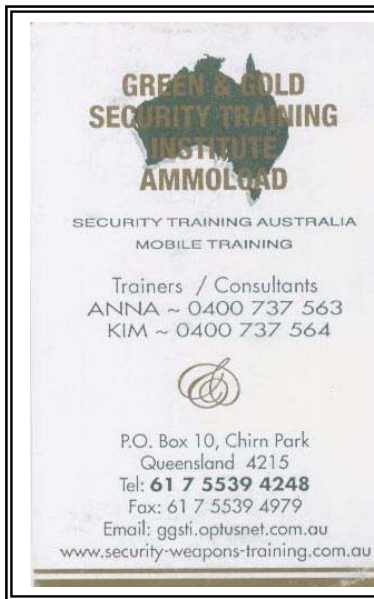
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