

Hi, Gang!

At our January meeting we welcomed new members, **John Morris** and **Jeff Christoffel.** Welcome to our little band of long-wand miscreants, Guys!

The first item for the night's agenda was to make a couple of awards: **Club Member of the Month** was awarded to **Evan Evans** who has contributed greatly to the club by setting up and maintaining our website. Congratulations, Evan, you deserve it! Our second award was our **Angler of the Year** which went to **Mark Hosking** mainly for putting a hook into everything that swam at Uncle Billy's.

Our **One Fly Event** was won by **Andrew Ledger** with a 46cm Giant Herring. It took 3 days for the grin to fade from his face. Nice one Andrew!

We then turned our attention to this year's Fishing Calendar. We relatively painlessly nutted out the events for the year, but left the specific dates up to the captain of each outing. So far **Denis Shaw** and **Mark Hosking** have come back to us with specifics. Hello, other captains.

Month and location		Captain	
January	Clarrie Hall Dam (Sunday 25 th Feb)	Denis Shaw	
March	Victoria Point	Duncan O'Connell	
April	Chaffey Dam	Gordon Low	
May	Tweed River	Mario Demaio	
June	Inskip Point	Mario Demaio	
July	The Seaway (Saturday 7 th July.)	Thomas Seebach	
August	Uncle Billy's $(17^{th} - 19^{th} \text{ Aug.})$	Mark Hosking	
September Jumpinpin (Saturday 22 nd September.)		Thomas Seebach	
October	Borumba Dam	Denis Shaw	
November Noosa River		Duncan O'Connell	
December Byangum		Mark Miller	

Tentative 2007 Fishing Calendar

Note: Dates and venues may be changed because of weather, fishing conditions or on the whim of members.

Rainbow Villas Barramundi Ponds Bob Knott

Few of you have been to Rainbow Villas (affectionately known as The Barra Brothel), but it is like an Uncle Billy's with barra. What it lacks in rustic charm it makes up for in amenities. The cabins each have two bedrooms with an en suite between them and overlook a swimming pool and a very tidy mango orchard. You only need to bring food and beverages; everything else is provided. There are even TV sets although I don't know if anyone watched them. They also have a good barbeque area for get togethers. There are six ponds ranging from a couple of small ones to a large lake which can only really be fished in a kayak or a rig like Mark Hosking has.

We met the other guys (16 of us in all) in Gympie and we got to our destination at about noon for the afternoon session. Tom Boylan and I signed up for this trip on Nat Bromhead's Saltwater Flyfishing Forum along with some guys we had fished with before and some we only knew through the Forum. We had heard stories about the place and the Barra there but we really didn't know what to expect. We were told we needed Clousers with rattles. I got some nice, little rattles from Duncan at **Fishhead** and tied until they ran out. White Clousers were the go but I had run out of decent white bucktail, so I thought I would try to tie some with white DNA.

By the time Tom and I sauntered down to the ponds a few guys were catching plenty of small Barra in the little ponds. We rigged up and had a go there for a while without success then moved down to the 5th pond after seeing Scott Mitchell land a decent Barra in the 4th pond. The 5th pond is decent size, about 50m across and 100m long. The fish must have liked my DNA Clousers because after about 30 min, I had one on that made me wonder about the wisdom of using an 8wt rod and a 20lb tippet! I had heard of bust offs with 30-50 lb tippets but I didn't want to lose this fish. With that thought in mind, that fish went straight for a deep patch of lilies and weed and wedged himself firmly in there. I think he might have felt a hook before. I thought I had lost him. Then I felt some movement. There was no way I could winch him out of there so I worked him from side to side until I felt him give a bit and then we were in clear water and he came in. He was the biggest fish caught so far at 85cm.

Within the next hour I was about to pull my fly out of the water for another cast as it was about 5ft from the bank, when I saw a big gold flash and a huge gob inhaled my fly and departed rapidly. I was relieved to find my line came out of my stripping basket neatly because in the blink of an eye I was into the backing and saw a big fish jumping on the other side of the pond. This one fought clean and spectacularly, jumping about 20 times before I got him to shore; He measured 90cm! Those two Barra are the largest fish I have ever caught on fly and after catching them I didn't care if I didn't catch another fish all weekend, which was a good thing since I didn't. We had a great time, a barbeque for dinner and then **Wes Pang** made mango daiquiris for everyone...delicious but deadly! Those who could make it out of bed the next morning fished until noon. **Gazza** (Gary Sturdy) caught the largest Barra at 94cm and caught several other good ones, mainly, I think, because he had a fly in the water more than anyone else.

We all had a great time and I think the place will make a great club trip. It is not a long drive from the Gold Coast and they have 6 cabins which will sleep 24 guys. The cost is \$150 cash which includes accommodation for one night and two half days fishing. Rainbow Villas is not well signposted but Tom has drawn a mud map which will get us there.

Photos:

My first fish, fighting my second and the fish landed. Two photos of the social gathering before Wes Pang's Mango daiquiris fried brain cells. Map.

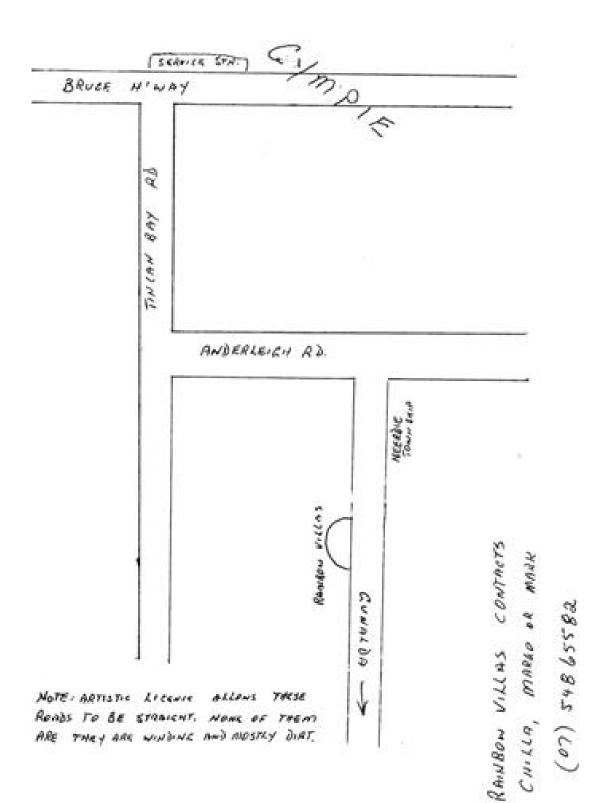












February Outing Clarrie Hall Dam

Here is the info from Denis ShawPhone no: 55759500Outing Captain: Denis ShawPhone no: 55759500Venue: Clarrie Hall DamAccess: electric motor only, small boats or canoeDate: Sunday Feb 25thAMAvailable species: Bass

Recommended tackle, flies etc early morning use floating line, Dahlberg's, gurglers: mid morning sinking line, vampires, woolly buggers)

Will seek permission to enter Crams Farm before first light, the house you drive past is not the caretakers & is being rented to a family with young children, they have already complained about noise early morning. I know the SEQFF will be courteous! Otherwise it is a 7.30 start. A NSW fishing permit is needed. We will organise boats and passengers at our February meeting.

Note: You will receive an up to date membership list with this newsletter. Please check that your details are correct and notify us of any changes that should be made.

Thought of the month: Question: Why does someone believe you when you tell them there are four billion stars, but check if you tell them the paint is wet? Anon

Tight Lines and bent rods! Scribe

Coming Events



NEXT MEETING:

<u>NEXT_FISHING</u> TRIP: Tuesday, Feb. 30th - 7.30 p.m. Mermaid Beach Bowls Club, 9 Markeri Street, Mermaid Beach

Sunday, Feb. 25th Clarrie Hall Dam Target – Bass

Treasurer - Mark Miller (02) 6672 4364 Publicity Officer - Bob Knott 5598 3254	South East Queensland Flyfishing Club Inc. – Contacts:		Gary SheppardMark HoskingMark Miller	5598 3364 (02) 6672 4364
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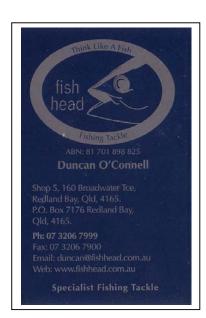
The Fisherman Pty Ltd at Sportys Warehouse - Gold Coast

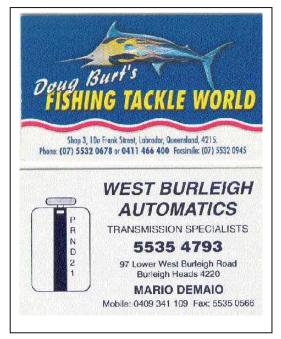
Robert Coddington

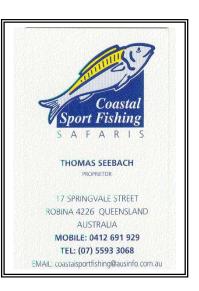
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It's what's between you

and the fish that counts!









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