



# NEWSLETTER

July 2008

## *Greetings, Gang!*

At our June meeting we welcomed visitor **Ezvin Sarvan**, who will be joining us along with new member **Timothy Perrin**. Now that Tim has joined the rest of us can give up hope of winning a raffle; Tim seems to have them wired.

After a suggestion by **Mike Halls** it was decided unanimously to name our annual Wild Bass outing at Byangum in honour of **Brian McDuffie**. The actual name is yet to be decided but **The Brian McDuffie Memorial Byangum Bass Bash** has been suggested. Any other ideas?

When the formal part of the meeting finished **Jon Makim** and **Gordon Low** demonstrated some tying techniques.

## **Fishing**

Our trip to Jumpinpin got blown out. The weather gods frowned on us. The days have mostly been still and cold. **Tom Boylan** and **Don Nash** managed to get out to the sandbags one morning early. They caught four Tailor and would have caught more but Bonito kept grabbing the fly. Tom said these were mostly Watson's Leaping Bonito with one Pacific Bonito thrown in. They had a ball!

## **Canada and Alaska** – Paul Goodey

My wife Tina and I have just returned from an amazing 2 weeks travelling through British Columbia and Alberta taking us on the world's most famous train journey "the Rocky Mountaineer" and generally doing the tourist thing of eating too much, drinking too much and generally having a great time. The third week was spent cruising the Inside Passage from Vancouver to Alaska. The scenery in these parts was truly spectacular and seemed to get more dramatic the further North we travelled with snow capped mountains disappearing into the clouds and huge green forests below meeting the water's edge which is home to an abundance of wild life including whales, sea lions, dolphins and sea eagles. Whilst travelling on land we spotted bears feeding on berries, elk, long horned mountain goats, wolves and caribou. One afternoon being particularly special as I spotted 5 bald eagles swooping on schools of small salmon in the harbour.

After 2 days on the cruise ship (and four kilos heavier!) we arrived at our first port of call – Juneau, the capital of Alaska, a very stark place, you either fly in or arrive by ship, no roads in or out, you really could imagine what it must have been like for the early pioneers and settlers in the days of the gold rush. I met the fishing guide Matt approximately 3pm, a gloriously sunny afternoon with a slight chill in the air and four of us made our way to the Bear Creek Outfitters. We donned the waders picked up the rods and reels and after being given our safety briefing we signed our lives away. It was all a bit of a blur but I seem to remember our guide's words "we'll be alright in the woods for one night" and epirb, flares, satellite phone and a rifle being mentioned all added to the excitement of the moment.



We jumped aboard the float plane and were on our way flying over rugged snow capped mountains, huge expanses of ice and glaciers, again the scenery was mind blowing. The area we fished was only 25 minutes flying time but the remotest of areas with no roads, totally surrounded by forests, tundra and a huge tidal system in the heart of Tongass National Forest.

The float plane landed softly then floated in towards a huge rock laden peninsula where a fast flowing mountain river was running into the salt water tidal system. I looked around the area for bears but spotted only bald eagles which was comforting! The guide carried a rifle at all times but said he never had to use it.



The conditions were perfect and the rods were set up in double quick time, The species of fish we were targeting were from the Arctic Char family known as Dolly Varden - a very pretty fish with good fighting qualities on six weight tackle. I managed to catch six fish to approx 3 lb in weight and lost just as many due to a combination of slack line, barbless hooks and the fast running river. It was like fishing a fast running aquarium, you could see the fish moving through checking your fly, side swiping and depending on your stripping, smashing the fly, a very visual exciting experience.





I hope the photos in some way explain my enthusiasm for this place. The day was finished off with a snack of freshly smoked salmon whilst waiting for the plane to pick us up for the return journey. I must return to this place to time it for the king salmon fishing.

A couple of facts I learnt – Bears can run up to 40 miles an hour, so if you ever visit these parts, make sure you can run faster than your mate! Also, the biggest killer of bald eagles is actually the salmon. As the eagle swoops onto its prey and clamps on with its talons, it is pulled under the water by the large salmon and consequently drowns. These salmon grow up to approximately 70lb.

I hope I haven't digressed from the fishing too much but for me the places fly fishing takes us go hand in hand. Ps. I managed to bring home some nice polar bear hair.



## Bass with Variety

Well the Variety Children's Bass on fly competition get's the thumbs up as Friday nights briefing get's on its way.

The weather predication was to be a good weekend and it didn't let us down, as the competitors hit the water early to get ready for the six am start. The morning stayed dead calm with just the breeze passing your ears as the morning went on. With the first session over the fishermen/women make their way back to camp looking forward to Judy's & Kelly's homemade hamburgers/ hotdogs & hot chips for lunch.

They sat around with their contented tummys' full talked about the morning fish; watch DVD's and a couple snoring on the couch others were working how to fish the next session. With a couple boat problems, Holler for a Marshall was called for one boat with flat battery and other with motor problems I am pretty sure River City Marine could help out there.

The guy's & girls heading out again hopping to put some points on the board the weather stayed perfect for the whole afternoon and with a five thirty finish they were looking for an exciting afternoon as the sun sets early behind the mountain giving them an early sunset hopping for a great bite.

While the fishing men/women looking for that great bite, Judy & Kelly were back in kitchen whipping up a storm making salads, roast potatoes with a seeded mustard butter, season rib filet steak and top it all a homemade apple pie with fresh cream & custard.

With all the fishermen/women back in camp (a little tired) were looking forward to the great meal and a few drinks. As the scores go up on the board it shows that it was a tough day, with two firsts & two seconds and the rest to follow close behind it makes a very interesting Sunday. Their tummies full again and many thanks to the cooks for a great meal. Then sat around the tables having many laughs about the day and all those fishing stories as beer and wine flowed. Sunday arrives with five am start a few dusky heads but all keen to get into fishing, as they make their way to the water. The morning weather not so kind today with five to ten knot winds, put a twist to morning fish but by eight am the weather god's came good. Again changing back to glassy conditions making smiles on everybody's faces.

But with the conditions excellent, food great, the fishing was not so good the two first & second stayed the same at the end of the weekend. So we had to decide who will come first second & third, so Peter Bell drop into third place with a couple of recorded under size fish, putting Norm Good into fourth. Now it comes down to first and second, Jeff Christoffel came to me with his story (a little sad but a fish) one spangled perch, now it comes down to Denis Shaw's story which was a little more exciting, with a straighten hook and good size scale a tough decision. Putting Jeff Christoffel in to second place and Denis Shaw to first. With the placing sorted and the trophies handed out, it was down to hand out the prizes which were donated by sponsors. River City Marine Loop fly Rods/ Marshall Batteries Greenslopes/ Russell Maudsley BP Boonah/ The Tackle Warehouse /Australian Hotel Boonah /BCF Cannon Hill /Outdoors and more Boonah / Boonah Butchery & Camp Lake Fire.

Many thanks to all sponsors & competitors.

Hope to see you all at the next Variety Children's fly fishing Competitions, which is the Variety children's Toga on Fly Competition on the 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2008, at Lake Borumba.





# *The Cook's Corner.*

Hi all, and welcome to the cooks corner. As Bob mentioned in the last newsletter we thought it might be a go if we slipped in a segment with ideas on recipes that are guaranteed to get those taste buds fired up.

My idea of a cook's corner is to move a touch away from the steak and 3 veg. recipes and experiment with something a little less garden variety. The concept for contributions to this segment is planned to be from all club members who have that gem of a recipe they would like to share.

Not all recipes need to have a piscatorial content, as they may have a place in feeding the masses on our club weekends, or that cracker soup much valued on those cold winter fishing trips.

This month's recipe is **Namas**. What in the blazers is "namus", you say, read on. Namas is a dish that can be prepared and served on the water and tastes tops. The ingredients can be prepared in a contained before leaving home and stored in the esky. All you then need to do is add fish. Here goes.

## **INGREDIENTS.**

- White onion.
- Pepper & Salt.
- Queens, trevally, tuna, trout, sweetlip filets or other pelagic species.(All Good)
- Red and Green chillies (how many is to your own tastes).
- Ginger & Garlic.
- White vinegar.
- Soy Sauce.
- Lemon, a squeeze or so.
- Green capsicum.

## **METHOD.**

1. Cut up the white onion, red and green chillies, green capsicum, garlic, ginger into smallish pieces and place in a non metallic container.
2. Slice up filets of your chosen fish into about half a cm. wide strips.
3. Add fish to ingredients already cut up in container.
4. Cover with white vinegar and add a couple of splashes of soy sauce and a squeeze in half a lemon (not too much though).
5. Put lid on and put container back in esky for half hour to an hour. Time depends on the thickness of the fish.
6. When ready the filets will melt in you mouth.

**Best served with beer.**

Next month, "Roll Mops."

Tight lines to you all, Wobbygone.

## Flyfishing classes at Miami High - Tom Boylan

For some years now we have been conducting lessons as a part of year 12 (16 year olds) Marine Science Studies for students at Miami. It is an exam course with each student awarded marks for proficiency in each area. Conducted over three weeks with hourly sessions. One group fly and knot tying and another casting, the following week we swap around and final week is a fishing outing at either Lakewood's or Currumbin depending on wind conditions.

The dates are consecutive Thursdays, July 31, August 7 and August 14 From 11.45 AM to 1.30 PM. Comprising of two groups of ten boy and girl students, these are really fun days and if you can be available to assist I would greatly appreciate it.

I have also extended an invitation to those students interested to attend our convention at a discounted rate.

If you can be available to assist please let us know. We will need six or seven people.

### Next outing

Our next trip is to Clarrie Hall for Bass on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> of July. Clarrie Hall is a beautiful spot and always a good trip. No petrol motors, so bring your kayaks or electrics and have a go. Make sure you go to our website and put your name down if you need a ride or if you have room in your boat for a deckie. **Brian Kirkley** will not be with us on this trip; he will instead be chasing Bonefish around the flats of Kiribati. We are all green with envy, Brian, but hope you have a fantastic trip.

### Quote of the month:

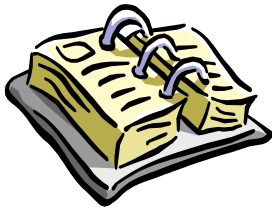
**"To err is human. To blame someone else for your problem is strategic."**

Anon

*Tight Lines and bent rods!*

*Scribe*

### Coming Events



#### NEXT MEETING:

**Tuesday, 15th - 7.30 p.m.  
Mermaid Beach Bowls Club,  
9 Markeri Street, Mermaid Beach**

#### NEXT FISHING TRIP:

**Sunday 20th July  
Clarrie Hall Dam  
Target – Bass**

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