



Club Newsletter

June 2019

Greetings everyone!

Welcome to the June 2019 newsletter and, boy, hasn't it been a long time between drinks!

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since our last edition but the main news is the almost complete overhaul of the club committee. Paul Goodey and myself retired from committee duties at last year's AGM. Peter Nolan and Peter Butcher continued on. And Jim Williams and Lando Leadbeater gallantly stepped up to replace Paul and I. So, as a result, the 2018/19 committee looks thus:

President:	Jim Williams
Vice President:	Lando Leadbeater
Secretary:	Peter Butcher
Treasurer:	Peter Nolan

CLUB CASTING CLINICS

As of May, the club has been running casting clinics on a regular basis for members and the general public. The clinics are held every first and third Sunday of the month.

On the first Sunday of each month the clinic is held at Emerald Lakes and the third Sunday of the month at Coomera Sports Grounds from 9am till 11am.

These events are a great opportunity for members to fine tune their casting techniques or to simply try out new rods and lines and receive some feedback from our Qualified Instructors.

Jon Burgess and Peter Glasson are the head Instructors for these clinics with support from the club's other CCI's. Come along, bring a mate and enjoy the company of your club members.

SEQFF Forum

Just a reminder that the bulk of the arrangements for upcoming club trips and up to date club news takes place on the [club forum](#), so be sure to stay in touch with us there.

If you are not yet registered on the forum, you can do so here:

<http://seqflyfishers.asn.au/phpbb3/ucp.php?mode=register>

Note that registration is available to club members only.

After registering you MUST send me an email at seqffclub@gmail.com so that I can approve your application.

IMPORTANT DATES

20 July 2019

Club Trip: Bribie Island

7 July 2019

Casting Clinic:
Emerald Lakes
9am to 11am

21 July 2019

Casting Clinic:
Coomera Sports Ground
9am to 11am

23-25 August 2019

Club Trip: Inskip Point

14 September 2019

Club Trip: Bli Bli

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This is, unfortunately, a necessary security step we must take as we receive an enormous number of attempted registrations from bots and spammers every day.

Also if you have any issues accessing the forum, just shoot me an email and we'll get it sorted.

Many thanks to this edition's contributors: Mark Hosking, Tom Boylan, Brian Kirkley and Alex Meynink. Fine work, gentlemen. Much appreciated!

Stu Jamieson
Editor

TAXMAN CLAIMS A HEAVY PRICE – Hervey Bay March 2019

By Mark Hosking

With a weather window for Hervey Bay on the weekend and reports of Longtail's around, Blommy and I headed up Friday night. On the water Saturday just before dawn and in perfect conditions, we made straight for Wathumba. A little over an hour later we arrived to be greeted by glassy conditions and birds and fish everywhere. What a day! Pete started the ball rolling with a baby Mack Tuna and then followed up with a decent Mack Tuna. We didn't see another Mack all day; there were just pod after pod of Longtails which was so unfortunate.... NOT!!



We cast at them almost non-stop all day and succeeded in hooking plenty. The down side was we paid a very heavy price to the men in brown suits as the tally at the end of the day was Sharks 8 (7 of mine and 1 was Blommy's). With more than a little luck, Blommy & I finally got 1 each into the boat on fly. The sharks would just hang around under or near the boat and wait until you had cast your fly, set the hook, let the fish run, do all the work in retrieving the backing & flyline and when you had the Longy circling under the boat and the net ready they would just hone in on an easy feed. We felt like we should have had an "UBER EATS" sticker on the boat.



Back to boat ramp by about 4.30pm, then to the hotel for a quick shower and across to the HB Boat Club for dinner and a pretty early night saw us ready to go again first thing Sunday morning. Straight back to Wathumba again and the fish were still there, unfortunately so were the sharks. Lost another 5 to them (3 for me and 2 for Pete), but I finally got one in the boat however it was on spin tackle. Back at the ramp by 1, packed up and tied down everything and on the road by 2 for the trip home. Unbelievable fishing and weather for both days, very, very rare for Hervey Bay.

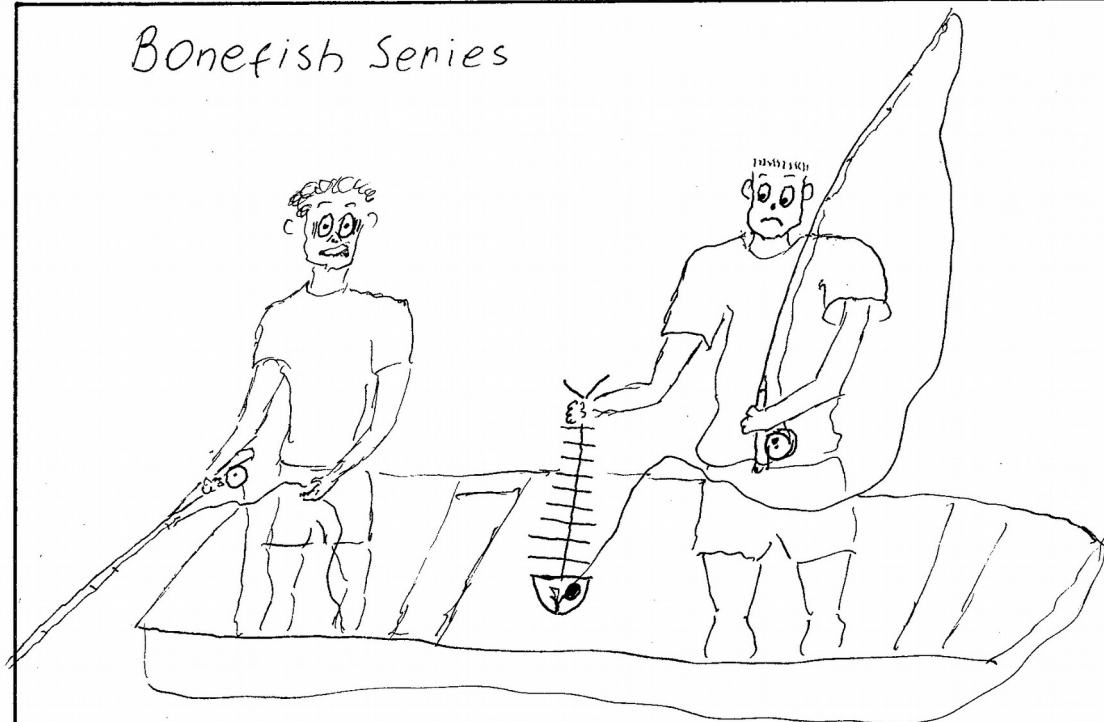
It was great to have Blommy on board, plenty of laughs that's for sure. We both need to do a major re-stock of our fly boxes. Can't wait for the next opportunity to get up there.

If you think we may have overstated the shark problem make sure you check out the video link!

<https://youtu.be/31PgxfGMi4k>

FLY YARNS

Bonefish Series



I WISH YOU WOULDN'T USE THAT "PHANTOM"
FLY FRANK! IT'S SCARY

TOM

CLUB COD TRIP: Ben's Falls, Emmaville.

By Brian Kirkley



Seven members arrived at various times for a weekend trip to the Cod Hole outside Emmaville. Jon, Vince, Lando, Mark H, Gary, Blommy, and BK, were all present for Fridays evening meal. Prior to that Blommy and Lando had arrived on Thursday, after falling in love with the owner all over again.

They had already caught a few by the time Vince and Jonno and BK arrived at lunch time followed soon after by Mark and Gary. The afternoon session rewarded Vince and Mark with fish.

The road in had not improved much but at least there were no blown tyres or any grief for the weekend.

By sundown everyone was settling in to the accommodation which was well presented and tidy and clean.

Mark H soon had a fire going in readiness for a bed of coals to accept a camp oven with an excellent damper, complete with dried tomatoes and olives, which was devoured dripping with melting butter. The resident deer had to beg for scraps when she came to visit later in the night.

The weather was perfect and we were all rewarded with seeing the place with blue skies then sparkling stars at night

The days were ideal for tee shirt and shorts and the nights cool enough to be enjoyed in front of the roaring fireplace.

By the time dinner (chicken and apricots) was ready, we had already cracked a few bottles of excellent red, and shared plates of delicious nibblies (thanks Vince) and then the serious part of the evening started.

Needless to say by the time we headed for bed, more than one bottle of wine and single malt, and Jack, had been sampled.

Everyone slept well, and Vince graciously volunteered to get up early and prepare coffee for everyone so we could be on the water at first light.

By late morning, more lovely healthy Cod had been caught, admired and released, and after an excellent breakfast (thanks Lando), fishermen wandered off singly or in pairs to fish the various pools around the property with mixed success.

The afternoon of fishing was a prelude to another night of tall stories and sledging as only our club members can manage. The highlight being an awesome meal of lamb chops and new potatoes that would shame a Master Chef (thanks from everyone, Jonno)

It was a delight to share another trip and to reflect during the evening on the camaraderie and friendships that have developed and flourished between such a great group of guys over the years.

The highlight for me was to catch my first Cod, which I owe to the patient and knowledgeable coaching of Blommy. Thanks mate.



CLUB TRIP – Variety Bass Comp., Maroon Dam April 2019

By Alex Meynink

Another Variety Bass on Fly has been run and won over the weekend of the 27th and 28th April 2019. This was the 12th year of the event put together by Jeremy and Judy Wakelin. The event takes place at Maroon Dam, located approximately 2 hours drive from the southern end of the Gold Coast. Anglers stay within the Pointro Campground with option to stay in the old Queenslander bunk house or camp within the Pointro grounds. The fees paid by anglers for accommodation are donated to the Variety Children's Heart Foundation Charity by the Pointro owners, St Francis College. Other Sponsors for the event include Tackle Warehouse, FlyLife, Mitre10, BCF, Micks Nuts & Monkey Tree brewery who donate prizes for the raffles.

Friday Pre-fish

After a few years of not fishing both the Variety Bass and Toga weekends, it was great to be back fishing one of these great events. I fished with Mark Hosking and we set off for Maroon at 6am departing my place at Tugun and being on the water around 9am after a brief stop at Beaudesert for coffee and a quick catchup with folks who has also arrived at Maroon.

Friday and Saturday morning presented glamour conditions with little to no wind and surprisingly few ski boats to contend with. Friday's fishing was quite successful getting on the board early with a sizeable Tilapia on the north eastern point nearest the two boat launching points within the Pointro campground.



My first Tilapia (Photo By Mark Hosking)

There was no wind all day and most spots visited yielding fish. From the fishing on Friday it was evident the red/black vampire style fly I had hastily tied in the lead up to the event was a clear favourite of the bass. I took the opportunity to tie some more of these flies over lunch on Friday so Mark and I had plenty available to use over the weekend. We both continued to catch fish on these flies in the afternoon and returned to have a meal before the official proceedings to kick off the comp commenced at 7pm.

Saturday Session 1

Saturday morning had the comp starting at 6am, Mark and I headed due west of Pointro to fish the structure on the western edge of dam. Mark and I hadn't fished in this area on Friday but the prospect of some early surface action prompted the decision to try this area for half an hour or so. The signs were promising, with Mark fishing an 8 wt rod, floating line and Purple/Black Gurgler which was a downsized variant of one presented on Nick Kneipp's Cod's Country website. After only a couple of casts it was evident we were in the right area with a couple of boils behind Mark's fly before being rewarded with a nice bass within 10 mins of the start of fishing. I fished a 7wt rod with intermediate line and red/black vampire style fly which was crunched by my biggest bass for the weekend, 41.2cm. We persisted without further success and headed to an area which produced fish for us the day previous, located up the northern end of the dam adjacent the public boat ramp.

In this spot we fished waters between 3 to 5m in depth with weed beds visible on the sounder. With no wind, the fishing was quite good with fish visibly active on the surface. I picked up my 2nd, 3rd and 4th (30.5, 32.0 & 34.6cm respectively) Bass in this spot all on the red/black Vampire style fly. Mark also landed his 2nd Bass for the morning and was adopting the same approach using an intermediate line teamed with the red/black vampire which became known as the "*Bomber fly*" in reference to the Essendon Bombers AFL team colours. Unlike the Essendon football team, this fly was a winner would assist Alex and Mark take out the "*Best Team*" trophy....more on the results later and instructions for tying this simple fly.

Its now 10am, I have a scorecard with 4 fish, Mark has 2 and the wind is getting up making boat positioning challenging so we seek alternative water and end up in the river section of the dam at the south western end in the 6 knot area adjacent the Camp LakeFire campground (which is closed for renovations). It wasn't easy negotiating the standing timber in the wind but Mark landed a good fish despite the area having a number of kayaks fishing the same area. The close of the first session was 11:30am and with 4 fish on the scorecard I kept fishing hard and was rewarded with a 39.0cm fish holding off a visible weed bed adjacent the timber lining the shore. Upon hooking the fish, one of the kayak anglers called out to his mates (who had all fished that area) "*Hey....look at those fly f*ckers*". That completed my 5 bass scorecard and highlighted that the biggest fish seemed to be in the timbered areas so we would need to spend some time in these areas if we wanted to upgrade our catch. That fish closed out the session and we headed back to the ramp. Lunch was a delicious Chicken burger cooked by the Variety crew which left plenty of time to relax and prepare for 1.30pm start to the final session of the day.

Saturday Session 2

We headed off at 1.30pm and went back to the northern end of the dam adjacent the boat ramp, we persevered for a while with Mark landing one fish but gave up as the wind was making the fishing too challenging. We headed to one of the adjacent inlets out of the wind and tied up to a tree, gradually we let more rope out to reposition the boat and cover more water. Mark hooked a nice Bass to bring his total to 5. With that, we headed off to check the red claw pots. No luck with the initial red claw pots (too much weed) so we headed to the bank opposite Pointro to try again. Jim and Peter Butcher were fishing not too far away so we threw the anchors out and had a cast. I managed to get a 38.1cm Bass which upgraded my smallest of 30.5cm and we also observed Peter landing another. The wind became too much to manage so we sought a spot in the lee of the wind and fished closer to Pointro. This was a good move with me hooking a sizeable fish only to be disappointed that it was a Tilapia. The session closed at 5pm and we headed back to the camp to freshen up and enjoy silverside and vegies for dinner and a few beers, wines and Canadian Clubs for good measure.

Sunday Session

Sunday morning, we headed off at 6am and went to the same spot as Saturday to take advantage of potential surface action. This spot didn't disappoint, with Mark landing another nice fish to bring his scorecard up to 4 bass. Shortly after I hooked up to another Bass of only 28cm. With a flotilla of kayak anglers heading our way we headed up to the river section in search of more Bass where Mark was able to get his 5th Bass. We fished near Peter (Blommy) and Tony and later learnt they had found sizeable Bass fishing the weed beds and were able to fill their scorecards. With the kayakers upon us, we decided to head for the northern end and try our luck. Soon after arriving I hooked another undersize Bass. We persevered for a couple of hours without any further success. Before leaving this area we fished a small inlet, my first cast in to some dirty water adjacent the lilly pads hooked my final Bass for the weekend, at 35.8cm it was enough to displace my smaller 32.0cm Bass.

The Results

The weekend was a great success with 50% of participants caught fish and the top 6 anglers all caught full scorecards of fish. The placing came down to mm so it was important for participants to record down to millimeters. There were 61 bass caught during the comp with many more being undersized and unlikely to be recorded. Blommy (Peter Blom) took out the top honours of 1st place with an impressive 5 Bass including the largest Bass of the weekend of 42cm as well as a 41 and 40cm, which were among the biggest recorded. Jim Williams was 2nd and I (Alex Meynink) finished in 3rd place with Mark Hosking and I taking out the best team honours.



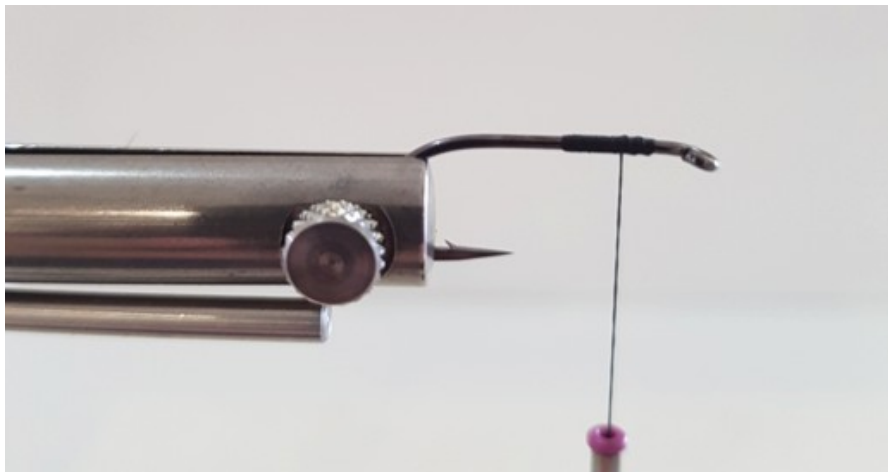
Red/Black Vampire (“*Bass Bomber*”) Tying Notes

Having recently moved house and yet to fully setup my fly tying station I whipped up this fly with what I had on hand. Normally I would be looking for a size 4 Gamakatsu B10s but all I could find was empty boxes, I did manage to find some Ahrex hooks purchased from Duncan at the most recent SEQFF Club open day. These hooks performed brilliantly, they are much stronger than the B10s and neither Mark or I lost a fish once the hook was set. On the few occasions we managed to get these hooks snagged they were recovered without opening the hook which again is a redeeming feature when compared with the B10s. The materials I used and some tying notes are outlined below.

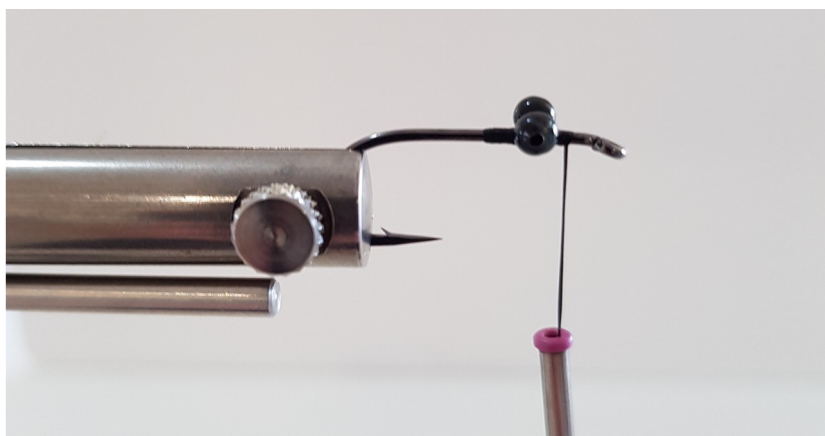
Materials

Hook	Ahrex NS115 Deep Streamer Size 6
Thread	Danville's Flat Waxed Nylon Black
Eye	Small or Medium bead chain
Tail	Red calf tail
Body	Black crystal chenille
Wing	Black Bucktail

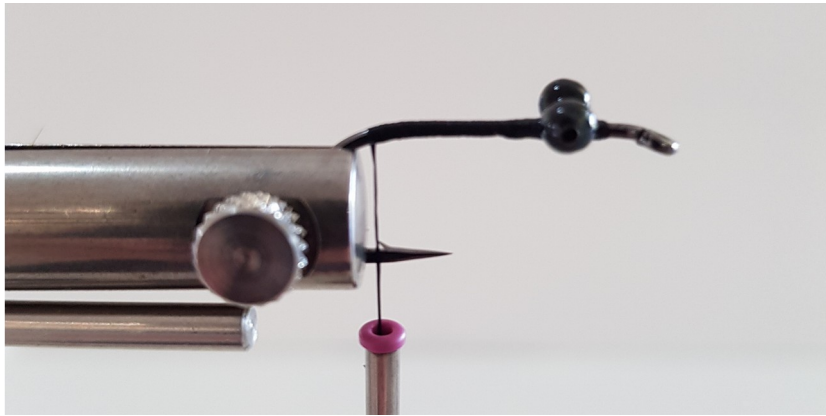
Step 1 – Lay down a thread base to support the beadchain eyes.



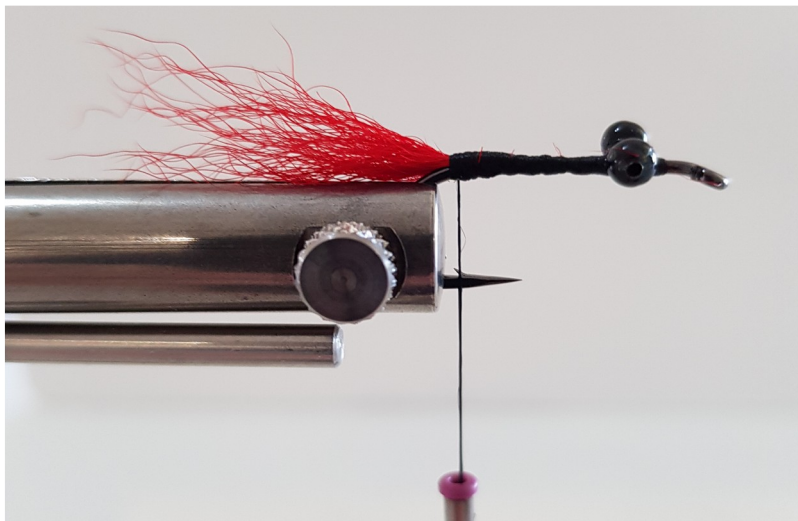
Step 2 – Tie in beadchain eyes and apply some headset or UV resin to secure eyes in place.



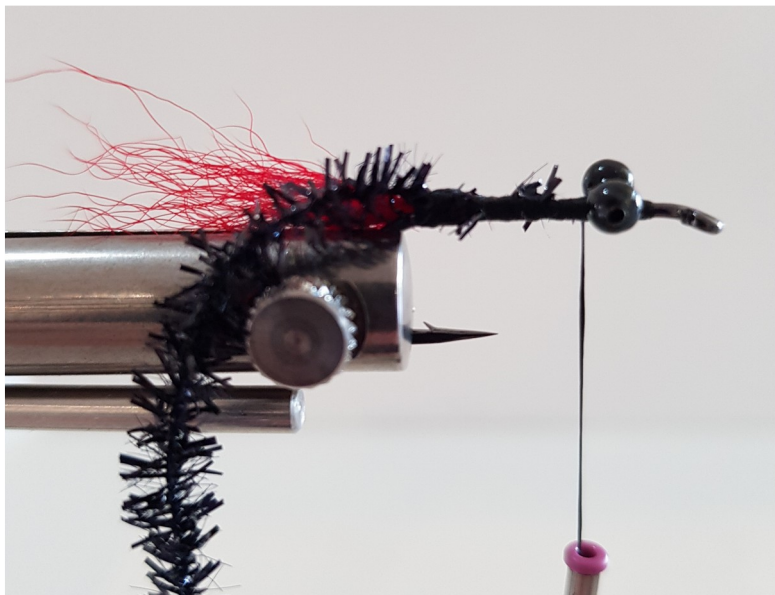
Step 3 – Advance thread to the rear of the hook inline with the barb.



Step 4 – Tie in a clump of red calf tail on top of the hook. Apply 2-3 soft thread wraps prior to applying firm pressure upwards to secure the calftail without it rotating around the hook.



Step 5 – Tie in the chenille and progress thread to rear of eyes to secure the chenille once the body has been formed.



Step 6 – Wrap the chenille to the rear of the eyes and secure with thread Advance thread to halfway point between the beadchain eyes and the eye of the hook.



Step 8 – Take a generous clump of bucktail and tie in front of the beadchain eyes using soft wraps to secure to the top of the hook before tensioning with upward pressure and whip finish and apply headset or UV resin to finish fly.



Maroon has lots of Spangled Perch which can deplete the bucktail so I recommend to use a bit more than usual to maintain the longevity of the fly. I also think the bucktail provides some resistance to weed and can be fished quite successfully being pulled through weed beds.

The finished fly.



I will be tying these in small beadchain through to dumbbell eyes and on hooks ranging from size 6 to size 2 to cater for Bass ranging from 28-40+ CMs hoping the bigger flies will entice the bigger fish!

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Stu Jamieson