

MAY/JUNE 2014 UPDATE

"What's been happening?"

PROSPECTING

I remember some time ago being told about some accessible carp fishing water on the upper Albert so I did a little research and found the farm-stay that I had been recommended. Brian K, Paul Goody and I went out to meet Michael a dairy farmer around Beaudesert area and he showed us some pools where we learnt to sight fish and invited us to fish the 'picnic area' on his farm where we tried our luck and got a taste of 'carping' upper Albert style.

MAY MEETING

The May meeting was attended by about 15 or so members.

We were shown by Brian K how to tie a parachute adams and how to tie a glow bug by Paul Goody.

This was in the spirit of chasing carp on flies. Stuart or Slickstu as he is known on the forum displayed some of his favourite flies for these gold fish on steroids and knows the areas well around the upper Albert and Logan where they live in abundance in clear running water.

TWEED OUTING

The Tweed River outing was looking to be attended by four fisherman only so on a cold windy low tide kind of a day we decided to launch off Chinderah to fish more sheltered waters followed by having some lunch at the fish and chipper across the road from the boat ramp.

Immediately after launching Blommy decided to throw my tiny outboard around 180 degrees and launch stylishly in reverse out into the open water but the plan when to muck when the throttle was stuck on full thrust and then it was a two minute struggle of one large man trying to control a full revving 2.2 Suzuki that was pointing the wrong way. The scene mimicked a man being attacked by a rabid Chihuahua. Well he managed to tame the beast, "what a legend" and then we went chasing bream and flatties for the next few hours with heaps of hits but few fish and met up with Matt and Garry C at the lunch venue where the battered snapper was a real thumbs up.

Garry C and Matt then got back into their boat and headed toward the mouth to have a look and team 'savage Chihuahua' went home to reload for another day.



I nearly lost a fight with a tiny outboard motor.

JUNE MEETING

The meeting was well attended with us reshuffling the dining area to hold our meeting as to not to oppose the darts competition that was being held.

Recent captures were discussed with the highlight being a nice size kingfish by seaway specialist Vince who has had

some great days out there during the week days.

The projector was then set up where we were treated to a screening of the latest from Gin Clear, 'Leviathan' which was a great movie featuring New Zealand spring creek fishing for big trout and some nice tarpon footage in Costa Rica as well as other quality fishing adventures.

FARMSTAY SIGHT FISHING FOR CARP

Our planning for this trip had finally come together and it was time for carping.

Michael our awesome host and guide was to meet us on the Saturday morning after attending to his diary farm duties. Down to the camping ground which is only about a kilometre away and we are walking the banks dressed in green and ready to pursue giant gold fish.



Carping outfit 2014

Walking in the sunshine and spotting fish is a really enjoyable way to relax and fish. Scrambling under shrubs and following cow tracks, wading and working out how to get a cast to fish all part of the challenge.

ANTICS

Five attendees lodged in the house with big rooms, many beds and a nice warm fire place, well suited for a gun team of carpers.

Friday night we settled into the farm stay and began our short stay with choosing who sleeps where and with who and the risk assessment of why would one share a room with another. The dangers include snoring, farting, interruptions such as sleep walkers and constant bathroom visits which I am guilty of but I was lucky because every time I got up Nolsy would get his torch out and guide me to the door with his light, what a light sleeping champion!



Blokes you can trust?

Saturday morning I was having a bit of trouble with my tackle and needed to change rods so Michael got Blommie's keys and we returned to the house and then down to the picnic ground where we found Mark (mizzie man) Drewitt who greeted us with a fart before he spoke which reinforced my belief that the culture level had just been lowered a level upon his arrival.



That's a grimace on my face not a smile!

I then fished with Mark and we ventured downstream with a highlight being up high on a bank guiding Mark standing on a rapid below keeping a fly in front of a big red feeding fish all the way until it passed by him right at his feet.

Conversations back at the house were directed towards the finer things of high culture with references toward fine dining and elaborate fashion including historical European architecture and of course what's happening with the share market. SEQ fly fishers are a very smooth lot indeed.

This was really good weekend away for its cosy accommodation, great scenery and sight fishing opportunities not to forget the short drive compared to other locations. This weekend is a way a fly angler can sharpen skills in land based stealth style fishing and certainly is a fantastic break away from the pump and grind of working. I personally had countless opportunities at fish mudding and even a tailing fish in a few inches of water. Our host Michael has recommended that we come back in the spring when the mulberries are ripe as the fish are very keen to eat these and can be easily replicated by a fly. Any way carp until next time, as we are sure to go back.



Fish are hard to catch but it is still relaxing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Open Club Display Day

Saturday evening July 26th and all day Sunday 27th will have a fly fishing event at the Currumbin Special School. Saturday night will have screenings of video and a talk from Gavin Platz. Sunday there will be fly casting and fly tying workshops. Food will be Jo's Texas grill as well as coffee and soft drinks. Keep an eye on the forum as this event approaches near and we will have more accurate details of time tables, workshops and proceedings. Remember to invite everyone and bring the kids even if fly fishing doesn't interest them, just for a feed, coffee and



a nice day in the sun.

FLY FISHING THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

I stumbled across a 'Wild Fish' hard cover book at the op shop the other day by Peter Morse written in 2000 and he was part of the SBS television series that aired at that time. Turning the pages of the book isn't really a look back at 15 years ago, it is more like looking at what's going on today. Even the locations are the ones we now fish as well as the flies and techniques. The rods are the same stiff graphite fast action now 4 pieces not 3.

On the market today is a confusing choice of lines from 4 or 5 top manufacturers and you mostly get what you pay for with the odd disappointment, it can be an expensive mistake in receiving a fly line in the mail that doesn't suit your needs. I guess most online retailers will refund or swap anyway if they value you as a customer. There are some great bargains out there but it can be time consuming looking through all the sites.

E-commerce

One of the biggest changes in this time is in the way we purchase gear. There is not much point anymore in going into most tackle stores unless it is to grab some leader or hooks. Online is clearly the way to go for better

customer value and product selection.

Variety

The thing with fly fishing now is that we all don't move to the beat of one drum and it is becoming more diverse with quite a few different styles. The main influencers in the sport still promote 9 foot fast action style rods with exotic flats and New Zealand Rivers getting played off the reels time and time again but now fly flickers want particular tackle to suit the location and style of fishing they enjoy most.

Productions

The latest fly fishing movies I have viewed lately no longer promote brands; it's even hard to see the brand names on the rods and reels. It seems that more energy and resources are put into production quality of the movie and hopefully the days of influencers crapping on about the brand of tackle they are using whilst fighting a fish will be greatly reduced if it will appear 'uncool' or hard to tolerate for consumers to watch branding during a shoot, an article or even a forum post. Wishful thinking I know, but funny if we go back to the before mentioned Wild Fish series and yep, branding isn't the objective. The idea is just to show the viewer the experience of the adventure of fishing.

Final Rant

Go your own way brothers and sisters in fly, yes you can learn from the influencers but remember they are often sponsored and benefit from other peoples hard work (finding locations and inventing techniques) if you want to use fibreglass, bamboo or short rods or try spey casting do it! It is your own personal journey for your favourite pastime and we are the masters of our own fly fishing story.

Movie Review

Geo Fish

When we were at the farmstay, we watched a few videos and one of them was Geo Fish based on a group of young American blokes who have saved up for the trip of a lifetime to head south deep into Mexico to chase marlin and large mouth bass whilst living on the edge on a shoestring budget traveling in a reconditioned Ford truck.

Five minutes in and its "what is this crap" as there is no fishing for about the first 35 minutes. What happens in the first part of the movie is all about the planning of the trip and the problems with the truck that is being worked on by a close friend.

When they finally get going the truck starts playing up and I think the first of their 3rd time getting robbed occurs. Dissappointingly there is no footage of any of the robberies.

When they finally get to the marlin fishing it's not bad stuff. Again part of the new type of fly fishing movies with no brands or even leader or rigging instruction but some shots of flies and tackle preparation. The marlin fishing is electric and then when it ends it's back to the dramas of the road trip.

One of the guys bails back to the US as his girlfriend is pregnant and then it is time for the rest of the crew to venture deep inland toward a lake that holds large mouths. They fish it hard and well until it is time to check out one last corner where there is a large creek branching off and it is there they are chased out of there with gun shot by the local marijuana cartel.

Also there is some good mangrove estuary fishing with snook and tarpon.

I started to enjoy this movie once I realised that it was more of a road trip movie than a fishing show. The attempt at the audience to make a connection to the guys failed and coldly I couldn't have cared less if one of them got shot or stabbed, it probably would have made it more of a classic like when the bikers get shot at the end of Easy Rider.

Anyway if you want fishing only then forget it, but for something different with a bit of hardcore adventure and realistic look at Mexico then Geofish is worth a look.

FLY TYING COMP

It's on again and if you guys that didn't hand in your insect flies at the July meeting you can still get them in at the August AGM so please contribute so we can keep up this club tradition.

S.E.Q.F.F. CLUB PATCH

For promotional reasons and for club pride I organised to have a nice cloth patch made to put in the Australian

Flyfishing Museum at Evandale. I sent it off and it now resides in the glass cabinet with all the other club patches from other fly fishing clubs from all over Australia.

Any way thanks for reading and hopefully we will catch you all at the club day at Currumbin on the 27th of July.

