



"Limit your catch.
Don't catch your limit."

Bemm River Angling Club Inc. Newsletter

ISSUE 24 – April 2026

Website www.bemmriverriverangling.com.au

In This Edition

General News

Background water mark.

Bemm River Bream Classic results and Fun Day

Membership

Annual Longest Fish Awards

What Bream are Eating at Bemm

2026 Committee

Programme of Events

Perch with Creamy Mushroom and Leek Sauce

Time to Laugh

Background Watermark

General News

Background Watermark

Do you recognise the long-time Bemm River Angling Club Member in the background watermark of the Newsletter? We will put a different member in each Newsletter in future.

Bemm River Classic and Easter Fun Day

On the Saturday, the weather was sensational with little wind and great conditions, however, the fishing was a bit patchy and you had to work to catch good bream. I started late on Saturday at about 8.00 am and was fishing in shallow water about 1 m in depth. It was overcast and the fish were on straight away. The bag of 9 bream over 30 cm with the largest being 35 cm bream. As soon as the sun broke through the clouds, the fishing went very quiet with only the odd fish over 30 cm. There would have been more undersized bream released than keepers. In the afternoon, the sun was still out and again fishing in shallow water was very patchy. A similar story occurred in the Channel where Jayne and Tayla both caught a 37 cm bream early but again it went quiet about 9.00 am. They were still catching small bream regularly. Most of the larger bream were caught in and around the Channel. One young chap caught a large flathead in the Channel, but he had not registered in the competition (membership free for Juniors) and did not have a brag mat.



On Sunday, the story was similar with fishing being variable. The competition finished at 11.30 am and John Egan was the last to have his fish measured at 35.5 cm. It was pleasing to see the large number of Juniors entering fish and they entered more fish than either the adult males or the adult females.

The results were as follows:

Winner of the Beam River Classic was Danielle Byrne with a bream of 42.5 cm

John Egan won the Men's secret length with a bream of 35.5 cm

Tayla Austin won the Ladies secret weight with a bream of 35.5 cm

Maddie Evans won the Junior secret weight with a bream of 30 cm (see photo below)

Largest Flathead entered in the competition was 70 cm by John Roberts

There were a few hard luck stories. I was told by Darren Chester's wife that he always gets pipped in these competitions and it happened straight after she said it that his bream of 42 cm was pipped by 0.5 cm. I also heard stories of a massive flathead which was caught in the Channel by a junior and, as mentioned above, he had not registered (refer photos above). He

did catch another one after registering but it was not a winner. Sam Stebbing, a junior, caught a flathead of 82.5 cm but did not send it in and I only saw the picture after the presentations. He received a fishing reel as a prize and is now leading in the longest flathead for the year (photo above). Arjen Legish was the only person in his group who did not join the Club and he landed this 43 cm bream below.



Easter Sunday afternoon was a great success with the presentations, the sausage sizzle, the stalls, the casting competition and Fishcare. The wind from the east blew up just as we were about to start proceedings and the secret weights in the box were blown away as we tried to draw them. The young ladies serving had trouble with serviettes and even the plastic chairs were blown over. Despite this, everyone had a great time and feedback was all positive. The only person to land the casting weight in the bucket managed to miss his bucket and landed it in the adjacent one (he received a 500m spool of fluorocarbon fishing line which is amazingly thin in diameter for the breaking strain). Amazingly, there were no tangles to undo although one plug had to be retrieved from a tree.



Thanks to all who helped on the day and everyone for supporting the Bemm River Angling Club. A special thanks to **Fisheries Victoria** who sponsored the Fun Afternoon and the following businesses who sponsored Prizes etc.

Bemm River Caravan Park Bemm River Bait and Tackle Bemm River Bungalows
Bemm River Hotel Hooked on Bemm Bemm River Holiday Accommodation
Bemm River and District Neighbourhood House Bemm River Men's Shed
AFN Fishing Show On the Edge Lures

2026 Membership

The membership list for 2026 has surpassed that of 2024 and 2025 combined with 67 Adult members and 35 juniors. Membership forms can be downloaded from the internet at <http://www.bemmriverrivangling.com.au/> or are available from some of the accommodation houses in Bemm River or on the last page of this Newsletter. Junior members are persons under 16 years of age on the 1st January 2026.

What Bream are Eating at Bemm

Last newsletter, we had the sixth in our series of what the bream are eating. In the first two in the series we had examples of the type of shell, one a big cockle shell up to 25 mm across and the second a soft shell. In the third in the series, we had swimmer type crabs. In the fourth we found small mussels. Last issue we found small cockle type shells. Shell is one of the common foods in the bream at Bemm River.



This month I do not know what we have. I have never seen a creature like this. I was in the lower intestine of a bream caught on a Strike Pro Bass X lure inside the mouth of the Channel. It looks like a slater of some sort. The back is a hard series of shell protection. The underside has many legs which appear to be in dual pairs. There was also a separate hard section which looked like a section of a large crab's claw. Just how the bream was going to pass these two items I do not know. **Can anyone help with identifying this creature please?**



Bream or Perch with creamy mushroom & leek sauce



Preparation Time 5 minutes

Cooking Time 25 minutes

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- About 600g bream or perch fillets, for 4 serving portions
- Salt & freshly ground pepper
- 1 leek, halved lengthways, thinly sliced
- 200g Swiss brown mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1/2 cup (125ml) white wine
- 300ml carton cream
- Steamed baby carrots, chopped fresh dill and potatoes, to serve

Method

1. Heat half the oil in a large non-stick frying pan over medium-high heat. Season both sides of the fish with salt and pepper. Add to pan and cook for 3 minutes each side or until crisp and just cooked. Remove from pan, cover loosely with foil and set aside.
2. Heat remaining oil in the pan over medium heat. Add leek, mushrooms and garlic. Cook, uncovered, stirring often, for 10-12 minutes or until leeks and mushrooms are very soft.
3. Increase pan heat to high and add wine. Cook for 1 minute. Add cream and reduce heat to medium.
4. Simmer, uncovered, for 5-6 minutes or until the sauce reduces and thickens slightly. Add fish to the pan and spoon sauce over the fish to warm through.
5. Toss dill with steamed carrots and potatoes. Serve with fish.

Source - Fresh Living - Recipe by Alison Roberts. Photography by Steve Brown

Background Watermark



The mystery angler in the background is Bob Medson photograph reproduced at the left. Bob and his family came to Bemm River for well over 50 years and he and his brothers Doug and Colin and sister Charlotte all had permanent caravans in the Caravan Park and the children and grandchildren came to Bemm River. Bob shifted to Boronia St in Bemm River and was there for many years. This is the photograph of Bob after landing a winning bream. Unfortunately, Bob passed away recently.

Time to Laugh

Seniors

An elderly couple was celebrating their sixtieth anniversary. The couple had arrived as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighbourhood after they retired. Holding hands, they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they'd shared, where Andy had carved "I love you, Sally ."

On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armoured car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up and, not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There, she counted the money-fifty thousand dollars!

Andy said, "We've got to give it back."

Sally said, "Finders keepers." She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two police officers were canvassing the neighbourhood looking for the money, and knocked on their door. "Pardon me, did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armoured car yesterday?"

Sally said, "No".

Andy said, "She's lying. She hid it up in the attic. Sally said, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

The agents turned to Andy and began to question him. One said: "Tell us the story from the beginning."

Andy said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday"

The first police officer turned to his partner and said, "We're outta here!"

Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical.

A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?'

Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'

The doctor said, 'I didn't say that.. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur and be careful.'

Three old guys are out walking.

First one says, 'Windy, isn't it?'

Second one says, 'No, it's Thursday!'

Third one says, 'So am I. Let's go get a beer..'

Come on, keep the jokes rolling in! If you have any stories, yarns or material of interest, please contact Lindsay on 0429 411 530



BEMM RIVER ANGLING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE 2026

Membership Fees:

- Single \$20.00 per year
- Family \$30.00 per year (includes junior children under 16 years)
- Junior Free per year under 16 years on 1 January 2026

To renew your membership or to join the Bemm River Angling Club Inc (BRAC) please complete the form below and return it to Bemm River Angling Club by email to jaynebailey099@gmail.com and deposit the money to the Commonwealth Bank Orbost Branch BSB 063731 ACC 101 360 74 in the name of Bemm River Angling Club Inc making sure your name is in the **Description appearing on their statement**. This form may also be given to a committee member with the payment.

Name:	
Address:	
Town and Post Code:	
Mobile	
E-Mail Address:	
Type of Membership (Please tick appropriate box)	Single Yearly <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/>
Family members please complete the list of members and indicate Juniors under the age of 16 years on January 1 2026. Mobile..... Mobile Mobile

By joining the Bemm River Angling Club (BRAC), the member agrees to follow club rules and accepts full responsibility for any risks involved in club activities. The member also agrees to indemnify the club against any claims, injuries, losses, or damages suffered by themselves, their family members, guests, or property while participating in club activities.
Junior Members will require their parent or guardian to sign below and must accompany the junior member at all times during BRAC activities.

NAME IN FULL:

SIGNED:

Social Media Disclaimer. BRAC may use your photos of fish caught on our social media platforms. If you wish to exclude Juniors included in the membership please indicate below.