

DEVONPORT NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2018
VOLUME 25 NO 3

OUR AIM
**“TO PROMOTE ALL FACETS OF FLY FISHING &
GOOD FELLOWSHIP”**

Club Postal Address Club Inc.

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BRONTE CAMP – 6th to 11th January 2019

Office Bearers 2017 - 2018

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------|----------|
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| Senior Vice President | Stan Laskey | | 64241678 |
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| Life Members | George Surman, Peter Burr, David Best, Barry Jacobson, Wayne Bellette | | |

OUR NEXT MEETING DATE IS: APRIL 26, 2018

At the Devonport Library Meeting Room 7:30 pm (Side Entrance)

DFFC Event Schedule 2018

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| Mon, 19-Mar-18 | Tue, 20-Mar-18 | Wed, 21-Mar-18 | Thu, 22-Mar-18 | Fri, 23-Mar-18 | Sat, 24-Mar-18 | Sun, 25-Mar-18 |
| Mon, 26-Mar-18 | Tue, 27-Mar-18 | Wed, 28-Mar-18 | <div>Thu, 29-Mar-18</div> <div>Monthly meeting Devonport Library</div> | <div>Fri, 30-Mar-18</div> <div>Good Friday</div> | Sat, 31-Mar-18 | Sun, 01-Apr-18 |
| <div>Mon, 02-Apr-18</div> <div>Easter Monday</div> | <div>Tue, 03-Apr-18</div> <div>Easter Tuesday</div> | Wed, 04-Apr-18 | Thu, 05-Apr-18 | Fri, 06-Apr-18 | Sat, 07-Apr-18 | Sun, 08-Apr-18 |
| Mon, 09-Apr-18 | Tue, 10-Apr-18 | Wed, 11-Apr-18 | <div>Thu, 12-Apr-18</div> <div>Fly Tying Devonport Library</div> | <div>Fri, 13-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Sat, 14-Apr-18</div> <div>Bronte Camp refresher #2 Devon Lodge</div> | <div>Sun, 15-Apr-18</div> |
| <div>Mon, 16-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Tue, 17-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Wed, 18-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Thu, 19-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Fri, 20-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Sat, 21-Apr-18</div> <div>Casting tuition / fishing weekend</div> | <div>Sun, 22-Apr-18</div> |
| <div>Mon, 23-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Tue, 24-Apr-18</div> <div>Autumn School Holidays</div> | <div>Wed, 25-Apr-18</div> <div>Anzac Day</div> | <div>Thu, 26-Apr-18</div> <div>Monthly meeting</div> | <div>Fri, 27-Apr-18</div> | Sat, 28-Apr-18 | Sun, 29-Apr-18 |
| Mon, 30-Apr-18 | Tue, 01-May-18 | Wed, 02-May-18 | Thu, 03-May-18 | Fri, 04-May-18 | Sat, 05-May-18 | Sun, 06-May-18 |
| Mon, 07-May-18 | Tue, 08-May-18 | Wed, 09-May-18 | <div>Thu, 10-May-18</div> <div>Fly Tying Devonport Library</div> | Fri, 11-May-18 | Sat, 12-May-18 | <div>Sun, 13-May-18</div> <div>Mothers Day</div> |
| Mon, 14-May-18 | Tue, 15-May-18 | Wed, 16-May-18 | Thu, 17-May-18 | Fri, 18-May-18 | <div>Sat, 19-May-18</div> <div>IFS Open Day / Lodge working bee</div> | <div>Sun, 20-May-18</div> |
| Mon, 21-May-18 | Tue, 22-May-18 | Wed, 23-May-18 | Thu, 24-May-18 | Fri, 25-May-18 | Sat, 26-May-18 | Sun, 27-May-18 |
| Mon, 28-May-18 | Tue, 29-May-18 | Wed, 30-May-18 | <div>Thu, 31-May-18</div> <div>Monthly meeting Devonport Library</div> | Fri, 01-Jun-18 | Sat, 02-Jun-18 | <div>Sun, 03-Jun-18</div> <div>Casting practice Winspears Dam</div> |

FISHING TRIP MARK LAMBERT'S DAM

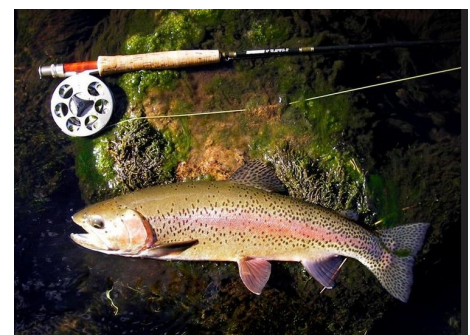
430 Sunnyside Road, Railton

Wednesday 11th April

Tuesday 24th April

Both starting at 4:00pm

PLENTY OF RAINBOW ACTION



| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|----------------|--|--|
| Mon, 04-Jun-18 | Tue, 05-Jun-18 | Wed, 06-Jun-18 | Thu, 07-Jun-18 | Fri, 08-Jun-18 | Sat, 09-Jun-18 | Sun, 10-Jun-18 |
| Mon, 11-Jun-18 Queens Birthday | Tue, 12-Jun-18 | Wed, 13-Jun-18 | Thu, 14-Jun-18 Fly Tying Devonport Library | Fri, 15-Jun-18 | Sat, 16-Jun-18 Fly Tying weekend with Brian McCullagh | Sun, 17-Jun-18 |
| Mon, 18-Jun-18 | Tue, 19-Jun-18 | Wed, 20-Jun-18 | Thu, 21-Jun-18 | Fri, 22-Jun-18 | Sat, 23-Jun-18 | Sun, 24-Jun-18 Casting Competition Winspells Dam |
| Mon, 25-Jun-18 | Tue, 26-Jun-18 | Wed, 27-Jun-18 | Thu, 28-Jun-18 Monthly meeting Devonport Library | Fri, 29-Jun-18 | Sat, 30-Jun-18 | Sun, 01-Jul-18 |
| Mon, 02-Jul-18 | Tue, 03-Jul-18 | Wed, 04-Jul-18 | Thu, 05-Jul-18 | Fri, 06-Jul-18 | Sat, 07-Jul-18 | Sun, 08-Jul-18 |
| Mon, 09-Jul-18 | Tue, 10-Jul-18 | Wed, 11-Jul-18 | Thu, 12-Jul-18 Fly Tying Devonport Library | Fri, 13-Jul-18 | Sat, 14-Jul-18 Destination and trip planning Maintenance rods, reels and lines | Sun, 15-Jul-18 |
| Mon, 16-Jul-18 | Tue, 17-Jul-18 | Wed, 18-Jul-18 | Thu, 19-Jul-18 | Fri, 20-Jul-18 | Sat, 21-Jul-18 Xmas in July Devon Lodge | Sun, 22-Jul-18 |
| Winter School Holidays | | | | | | |
| Mon, 23-Jul-18 | Tue, 24-Jul-18 | Wed, 25-Jul-18 | Thu, 26-Jul-18 Monthly meeting Devonport Library | Fri, 27-Jul-18 | Sat, 28-Jul-18 | Sun, 29-Jul-18 Casting Competition Grindelwald |
| Mon, 30-Jul-18 | Tue, 31-Jul-18 | Wed, 01-Aug-18 | Thu, 02-Aug-18 | Fri, 03-Aug-18 | Sat, 04-Aug-18 | Sun, 05-Aug-18 |
| Mon, 06-Aug-18 | Tue, 07-Aug-18 | Wed, 08-Aug-18 | Thu, 09-Aug-18 Fly Tying Devonport Library | Fri, 10-Aug-18 | Sat, 11-Aug-18 | Sun, 12-Aug-18 |
| Mon, 13-Aug-18 | Tue, 14-Aug-18 | Wed, 15-Aug-18 | Thu, 16-Aug-18 | Fri, 17-Aug-18 | Sat, 18-Aug-18 Early season fishing tips. Tying Mayflies, Duns and Emergers. | Sun, 19-Aug-18 Devon Lodge |

WORLD FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

Norm Day our club organiser of Controllers for the above event in 2019 has requested that I place the following in the newsletter, I have spare space in this edition hence the early notification:

“Please include the following details about the World Fly Fishing Championships in the newsletter sometime.

Our club has volunteered to be controllers for one of the venues.

Controllers will be required for 5 days from Monday the 2nd December until Friday the 8th December 2019 (next year)

We require 24 controllers each day including a first aid person.

We do not know what our venue will be until closer to the event. There will be 3 lake and 2 stream venues.” - Norm Day <https://www.wffc2019.com/>



Minutes

DEVONPORT FLY FISHING CLUB INC.

Ordinary Meeting held on 29th March 2018

The Chairman, John Hepburn welcomed all members, new members and guests to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

Meeting Opened: 7.35 pm.

Attendance: 18

Apologies: B Marshall, S Laskey, T Scott, D Prince, R Bramich

Previous Minutes: Moved S MacAulay, seconded by Morley, that the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated with the following amendments were a true and accurate record. **Carried.**

Business arising from minutes of previous meeting.

Lodge Insurance. B Marshall reported that the figures that were presented at the last meeting have been confirmed by another source. The insurance broker gave a quote of \$1,100pa to insure the lodge for \$340,000. Bruce recommend that we proceed with this as there will be little variation when we increase the cover. That is increase the cover between now and when the policy is due in late June and then re-insure for \$340,000.

On the question of the cover being a home and contents policy, provided we are using the lodge in the way you would use a home (eat, sleep, activities etc) then the cover is appropriate. If we start running classes out of the lodge more like a commercial venture then that would not be acceptable.

Moved C Morley, seconded M Murray that we increase the Lodge cover to \$340,000 and approve the increase in premium. **Carried**

Treasurer's Report: Moved R McLachlan, seconded by S MacAulay, that the treasurer's report be accepted and accounts passed for payment. **Carried.**

Correspondence Inwards:

David and Val Prince – membership application and payment.

Aurora Energy – account November to February.

Abby Loone – Insurance quote as indicated above.

Malcolm Crosse – World Fly Fishing Championships brochure release.

State Revenue Office – Land Tax 2017-2018 financial year.

Australia Post – PO Box rent.

Stewart Hase – Short story about Bronte.

Richard Haymon – SAFFA bulletin. [Click here.](#)

IFS Quarterly Report to Anglers- December 2017 to February 2018.

Wayne Bellette – copy of and comments on AAT minutes.

Andrew Reed – details of the World Fly Fishing Championships

Correspondence Outwards:

David and Val Prince – membership booklet.

Moved D Best, seconded by M Jones, that the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards confirmed.

Carried.

Business Arising: It was noted that the IFS either have or intend to upgrade the Red Rock track into our Bronte Camp. Thanks to this being raised with the IFS representatives who attended this year's camp.

Reports

Camp committee: Noel reported on the previous meeting. The Club will hold casting at the Liawenee weekend to advertise the camp. Advertising will start next month. We already have 3 new and 3 returnees paid up for 2019 camp.

Devon Lodge Management Committee: Phil Bloomfield presented the agenda for the next committee meeting (attached). The idea is that the committee will recommend priorities to the club for discussion. Plans need to be established to ensure proposed developments on the site are not in conflict with proposals.

Fishing trips: Two trips planned for the club dam, Wednesday the 11th April and Tuesday the 24th April both starting at 4 pm.

Fishing reports: Phil caught 3 fish very quickly at the club dam, and a number of other members caught fish in good condition. The first outing was very windy and only 1 fish caught.

Percy and Anthony had a couple of successful days at Lake Burbury before the weather turned bad. The fish were in windlanes.

Fly tying: Stan is ready for the first session this year.

General Business

Constitution amendment. It was proposed that we amend the family membership to include the following. Family membership also applies to grandparents and their junior grand children. This will be formally submitted for the AGM.

Annual Dinner. To be held at the Forth Hall on Saturday the 27th October. We urgently require a volunteer to organise this dinner.

John reported that the fly tying weekend for novices at the Lodge was attended by 3 novices. Thanks to Stan for his input. There are already 6 students registered for the second Bronte refresher course at the Lodge for Bronte students.

Chairman, John Hepburn thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Meeting Closed: 9.20 pm.

CHALLENGING TALBOTS

1 – 4 March 2018



This club trip had been organised and advised in club calendar for months in advance but unfortunately only 6 members participated. They were Jeff Cassidy, Mike Shaw, President John Hepburn, David Best, Noel Walker and myself.

The weather promised reasonably settled conditions with interesting variables to add to the many challenges offered by this wonderful wild fishery which is arguably the best Mayfly water in the State.

When John and Jeff collected me from home and whilst I was packing gear into car, I enquired whether I would need some liquid refreshment other than water, John indicated it was entirely up to me, my reply was that I would have a 4-day alcohol free trip. Ha-ha more about that later.

We all assembled around lunch time and sorted ourselves out at the superb lodge rented to us by Forico, there were 3 Forico employees residing at lodge also for the first two days but presented no problems to our plans or theirs. After intro's and some planning, we decided to reconnoitre the shore line named boss's hole and get a feel for the lay of the land & water so to speak, Mike set out in his yellow yak.

At the second carpark we were met by another Angler who indicated that he had been very successful at Talbots in the past but there was nothing happening out there today and the negativity would possibly have driven some keen anglers away. He blamed the opening of the water to Kayaks as the reason for the decline in fish catches in recent years or his personal success anyway.

After a short enjoyable walk down a track surrounded by forest, we arrived at the Boss's Hole only to find that the wind had picked up a tad and was gusting South West (Right to left) which made casting to any fish if sighted rather interesting. The odd Dun came floating past so quick you would think they were fighting for line honours in the Sydney to Hobart. We did indeed spot the odd fish surface but were all too far out even for a good skagit caster.

We could see a couple of Yaks on opposite shore line, one very yellow one which is a great colour to see from a distance, Mike evidently spotted a humongous submarine out there which may have come up to



need a bigger boat. I recall Bryan Green on a previous visit also saw a huge trout.

Back at the lodge we started sharing a few tales with some nibbles' over a few beers then it started, Jeff offered a whee dram of his "Ardbeg" Single Malt Whisky which is perhaps not to everyone's taste but to those that know their whisky, this one is superlative. This intro to a great drop set the scene for the rest of the trip but more on that later.



FRIDAY

After a hearty breakfast and preparation of a lunch pack we set off in different directions, Mike off in his Yak, Noel and David to the dam wall, unfortunately no success and had departed for home we discovered when



we returned. John, Jeff and myself set off for the 25 minutes approx. walk, this was a very pleasant walk around to the eastern side of the Sugar loaf where there are some superb little bays which given the right wind direction is a great shore, we needed a South Wester but you guessed it no, we had a Nor'easter. We watched and watched displaying a lot of patience. Tormented by the occasional riser 2 to 3 casts out. Had some lunch to pass the time.

Then it happened, A large fish rose right next to a small log adjacent to Stuart, good fish, tail and dorsal in full display only one-half rod lengths out. An enormous fallen log provided the perfect camouflage for me to remain out of sight and creep up to place a cast right in the middle of the

zone and remain pretty much out of sight, Geehi dry on top with Muz Wilson Stik Caddis 9" under. My eyes glued to the spot for what seemed an eternity but no luck unfortunately, the fish was not spooked so must have had a large beat.

Sound travels rather well across water so careful when you utter an expletive when Speckles wins and you lose, anyway we heard a "YAHOO!!!" we hoped Mike managed to catch the submarine but on the other hand we hadn't noticed him flying past at great knots hanging on for dear life. He came in to join us and he had caught 2 nice rainbows on a Barry Lodge Emerger, Great effort.



While heading back to lodge, we stopped in at Paradise Bay to check it out but found it to be too shallow deciding not to pay it any attention on this trip.



Nibbles and discussion on the days fishing occurred around the table and of course a celebration drink had to be had in honour of the 2-trout caught by Mike. The first bottle of Ardbeg was finished. That bottle gone, low and behold, Jeff promptly produced another & that bottle was given a severe hiding also. After producing a rather late communal dinner We decided (Stupidly), probably alcohol induced to get up at 4:00am to have a crack at "Speckles" with a daybreak fishing trip. Off to bed we went, I set my alarm then promptly passed out flat on my back, yes (Bryan Green), I do snore especially when it is alcohol induced or I have a head cold. John reliably informed me of this after breakfast on our return from fishing.

SATURDAY

Alarm went off at 4:00am and startled the hell out of me, I thought I was having a nightmare but came to my senses quickly jumped out of bed, while John pretended to remain asleep. I found both Mike and Jeff were still in bed so once they were up,

we had a quick coffee etc. and set off for our adventure. Arrived at yak launching ramp only to find it was too dark yet to proceed and the cursed wind was gusting straight into our faces yet again which was not supposed to happen. I stood on the ramp uttering the odd expletive whilst Jeff and Mike sat on a log with their feet buried in bog. Candid Camera would have had a field day



We had to wait in the cold for approx. an hour for it

to get sufficiently light enough for us to proceed quietly along the shore avoiding most of the bog holes, none of us had experience with this shore line. We proceeded cautiously and sighted a number of big fish tailing close in and each time one was sighted we stalked it, each of us getting the opportunity to put one on the scoreboard. One big fish I think all three of us had a go at it with different fly's and eventually Jeff connected with a Barry Lodge Emerger. These fish know every snag and we thought it was in the clear, Jeff had steered it away from any potential snag. No chance, This Brownie knew the territory better than us and got Jeff around a small almost submerged snag, we thought it was still attached, I went out to net fish believing it was still attached near the snag not to be, it had gone. Yet another LDR at Talbotts. This was Mikes' first experience of big trout tailing in very shallow water and will remain

in his memory for ever. We did not return for Breakfast until about 10'ish but would certainly return to this shore again tomorrow morning but with at least one hour more sleep this time and feeling less iaded.

Afternoon John, Jeff and I tackled same shore between Old Guildford road & the Boss's hole quite a few fish were again sighted indicating that a number of these fish sighted earlier in day are indeed residents. John persevered with stalking one fish for an hour, with the fish apparently enjoying the game of hide & seek, never disappearing entirely but continually reappearing in a different location. Jeff discovered an open area of water allowing a good back cast and promptly extracted 2 Rainbows in two casts, I missed netting the first for Jeff as I was returning from further along the shore, the first was bigger than the second one which I netted for Jeff, this fish weighed in at 4.24 LB, the buck rainbow was estimated to be approximately 5LB. Jeff is a catch and release man normally. He gave me the Hen fish for my family. Back to the lodge for earlier night so we can get up and fish this same shore at 6:00am in morning. We had a few drinks and wished John a happy birthday for tomorrow. Incidentally the Hen fish was full of beetle, mud-eye, grubs that looked like Caddis grubs and lots of red weed which may have been the source of the grubs.

SUNDAY Last morning at Talbots and all four of us hit the shore at 6:00am as planned. John did not pretend to be asleep this morning There had been a shower or two of rain overnight and unfortunately the wind was against us yet again, perfect for the other side of the Sugarloaf but it was another Southwester, there were a few fish visible but nowhere as many as previous morning, Stuart & Mike both had a go at one resident we had had a go at yesterday morning and John had failed to tempt yesterday afternoon, but to no avail. The Sage 6wt was a handicap for Me and my line management leaves a lot to be desired, this b----y!! fish was presenting itself along a log running away from where I was well hidden and was no more than two rod lengths away tormenting me, I was trying to present a Geehi Dry with a Stik Caddis suspended 6" below but being on a long leader and the Fast rod not able to load without a reasonable bit of line out and to make matters worse the wind was coming from right to left it was almost impossible to place my flies exactly where I wanted to. I Should have changed to 5Wt Medium speed rod as intended. Eventually I believe fish saw rod flash and took off, yet another Expletive was heard.



We moved on, Jeff was sitting at his favoured spot anticipating another rainbow when I turned up, I immediately spotted a rise half a cast out followed by another a further 1 to 2 metres further along and parallel to shore, definitely a hallmark of Rainbow on the move. It was less than a minute before the squeal of Jeff's reel was heard and a good fight followed with a big Brown coming to Mike's net who was assisting Jeff. This fish was given to John as a birthday present. This fish was chock-a- block full of mud-eye, some of which were still alive. This spot was justly named **"Cassidy's Corner"** and the successful fly on all three occasions **"The Talbots Tag"** this spot known to only those present and who are sworn to secrecy, accounted for the capture of 13+ LB of fish in approx. 3 casts.

Back to Guildford Lodge a cuppa some breakfast and Johns birthday cake, followed by the pack up & lodge cleaning.

What a great trip it was, all of us I'm sure will remember this one forever. It's not the fish that were caught that is in the memory bank it's the opportunity to observe big wild fish behaving naturally in their own domain giving you the middle finger John says he will definitely never pretend to sleep through a dawn session at Talbots again.

We will most definitely be back and soon.

For me personally, what did I get out of this fishing adventure. I met a new friend in Jeff Cassidy and I'm sure we will have lots more fishing together in the future and no doubt some more drams of good whisky. I had the opportunity to fish with fun fellow anglers who are as passionate about this Sport, Recreation or Art whatever you wish to call it as I am.

Although I did not catch a fish, I learnt heaps of tactics and

new things, the value of patience whilst waiting for Mr Speckles to show his location then the waiting game after getting yourself in a good position.

No snakes were sighted this trip, only nasty was a leach I picked up on my wader jacket

whilst bush bashing, fortunately had not made it inside to attach to my skin and start blood sucking. As far as my decree to have 4 days without a drink, I was misguided it was too much of a good drop, really great company and it was privilege to celebrate John's milestone birthday.

Tight lines

Stuart MacAulay



Newsletter Internet Links March 2018

Tassie Western Lakes

Build Your Own Fly rod DIY 3

Build Your Own Fly rod DIY 4

Another CdC tutorial with Marc Petitjean

Petitjean CDC – The book

Drone-clip compilation of Australian salmon fishing

Build Your Own Fly Rod: DIY Video 5

Flies for Big Brook Trout

10 Ways to Get Your Nymphs to the Bottom

Quick and Easy Tippet Wraps

Are You a 'One Trick Pony' Fly Angler?

Going Small and Going Crazy

<http://tinyurl.com/y7tsmvmc>

<http://tinyurl.com/y7hcipu9>

<http://tinyurl.com/ycrlo37p>

<http://tinyurl.com/y9znfs7j>

<http://tinyurl.com/y9vdg3tz>

<http://tinyurl.com/y88qu474>

<http://tinyurl.com/y7myman2>

<http://tinyurl.com/ycrnt22o>

<http://tinyurl.com/y7lu66vz>

<http://tinyurl.com/ycztm72>

<http://tinyurl.com/ya28ix3d>

<http://tinyurl.com/y7hlt5sc>

| | |
|---|---|
| Figuring Out the Local Hatch | http://tinyurl.com/y7e2o8yv |
| The Morrish Mouse 2.0 – Tying Instructions | http://tinyurl.com/y99xda3b |
| When hundreds or even thousands of bugs are on the water | http://tinyurl.com/y8eijl9t |
| Winter Midge Fishing on the Madison River with Kelly Galloup | http://tinyurl.com/y9nfxcx5 |
| Fly fishing in Paradise - New Zealand | http://tinyurl.com/y8oypz29 |
| Build Your Own Fly rod DIY 6 | http://tinyurl.com/y78g5wro |
| If You Love it, Set it Free: A Guide to Catch-and-Release Fishing | http://tinyurl.com/yadjluo2 |
| What Kind of First-Aid Kit Should You Carry? | http://tinyurl.com/yaaes7ku |
| 5 Proven Tips to Help You Tie More Flies | http://tinyurl.com/ydxfkhlv |
| How to rig your fly rod to fish nymphs | http://tinyurl.com/y8htps84 |
| Classic Story: The True Value of a Fly Rod | http://tinyurl.com/ydccxvsn |
| How to Untangle Knots in Your leader | http://tinyurl.com/y84m4737 |
| Steaming Fly Tying Materials | http://tinyurl.com/y7siysqa |
| Demystifying Hackle Grading | http://tinyurl.com/y9v233gn |
| How To Catch A Trophy Brown Trout | http://tinyurl.com/yal8fjvf |
| Build Your Own Fly Rod: DIY Video 7 | http://tinyurl.com/y9ohbpzf |
| FISH REFLEX TESTS - A VALUABLE TOOL FOR ANGLERS | http://tinyurl.com/y9x95hey |
| Video: How to Tie a Figure 8 Loop Knot | http://tinyurl.com/y9kgxyct |
| Sometimes you can see better in the dark. | http://tinyurl.com/ybck82u4 |
| Video: How to Hand Whip-Finish | http://tinyurl.com/ybkmwpmj |
| Trout Bum of the Week XLVII: KynsLee Scott | http://tinyurl.com/yc76f6ct |
| Getting your bugs in order | http://tinyurl.com/ya5m5vex |
| Tying a hatching midge with Barry Ord Clarke | http://tinyurl.com/yc5s895k |
| How to Unravel a Knotless, Tapered Leader | http://tinyurl.com/yd8m95ty |
| Tightline-Nymphing Tips: When in Doubt, Drag 'Em | http://tinyurl.com/y8jp25df |
| Fly Fishing with Stealth – 8 Common Mistakes | http://tinyurl.com/ya6z3nn4 |
| How to Choose the Right Nymph | http://tinyurl.com/yawkdz4m |
| Video: How to Tie a Parachute Post (Traditional Method) | http://tinyurl.com/y9sao6td |
| Video Tutorial: How to Tie the Blood Knot | http://tinyurl.com/yddyrrpd |
| Video: How to Tie a Parachute Post (90-Degree Method) | http://tinyurl.com/ydaojs8h |

MARK LAMBERTS DAM

Wednesday, 7 March 2018

Eleven members fished the dam from 6:00 pm onwards until dark. Fish did not come on until the breeze dropped off a little then the rises to spinners happened in earnest.

There was no point fishing with wets as the level of the dam was down and every time Reid McLachlan cast he would pick up weed so it was definitely a night for dry fly.

A few expletives were heard from across the water, there was some mention of a swear jar, then another expletive was heard protesting such a suggestion. I believe the culprit lost a couple of fish due to poor knot tying, more lessons required in this area and practice whilst watching TV perhaps but good effort all the same, at least he fooled some which is better than I achieved.



David Prince (Friend of Phil Bloomfield) had never had a fly rod in his hands before this night but also hooked two nice fish, unfortunately LDR on both occasions, well done to David.

There were approximately 4 members fishing from the dam wall area and were hooking up regularly on Mudeye patterns so I was informed, I don't know what happened to the fish. Maybe this may explain some of the expletives that were heard coming from this area.

David Best, Noel Walker and George Surman went to the opposite end of the dam, could hear their voices, understand David hooked into good fish and after a protracted fight, the fish managed to make it into the weeds and won the day. You win some and lose some.

Mike Shaw again achieved success (Photo) and it is really great to see one of our first year Bronte camp & new members get into fish again & again, well done Mike, He will be a force to be reckoned with in club comps.

Great evening was had by all and I'm sure we will have a good showing at the next Mark Lambert Dam fishing night on Wednesday 21st March at 6:00pm, Hope the weather is as good as it was this night with no breeze next time.



Wednesday, 21 March 2018

Due to the weather being a bit ghastly and an increase in wind expected according to forecast most members did not attend especially since the water level was down and weed close to surface as experienced on the 7th March.

One member did however attend (Phil Bloomfield) and this is what he had to say on Facebook & some of the responses:

"Don't know whether I got the dates wrong or not but I thought that we were fishing the Sunnyside dam on the 7th and 21st of this month. I was on my own. The fish were suicidal and I felt guilty catching them so I released the rest. Gave Mark Lambert's family 2 my mate one and kept one. Got them on a mud eye but they were full of snails. You were all in my thoughts of course."

"You were all in my thoughts of course." Did anyone get an SMS?"

"My arm was aching too much to send anything "

"Did you leave any for the rest of us Bloomers?"

"Put 4 back. Could've caught more as they were still working at 7 when I stopped. Started to feel guilty. Not very often that happens."

Stuart MacAulay, Newsletter Editor.





Fly Casting Lodge Day

When: Saturday 21st April - 9:00 **AM Start**

Where: Meet at Club Shack at Great Lake or make a weekend and stay the night

What: Two sessions 9 -11 AM and 1.30- 3.30 PM

Lunch BBQ 12.30 – 1.30

Why: -To help member's fine tuning their casting.

Focus will be on double hauling and presentation casts in first session.

Self-analysis for fault fixing, and individual skill problems / Practice ideas in second session.

BBQ - Bring own meat, food and drinks. Club will provide BBQ.

Come and enjoy a good day of instruction and camaraderie.

Stay the night and go fishing- Book with Booking Officer.

Every one welcome – Please advise Bruce secretary.dffc@gmail.com if you plan to attend.





Casting in the Park

February 2018

I am a lurker on the Australian Saltwater Fly Fishing Forum and during the holidays found some interesting reading in a thread started by a fellow Certified Casting Instructor (CCI) ¹ in Queensland. Mike was offering free casting instruction for anyone who could come along to his local park of an afternoon. His post was waylaid by a fishing guide who was frustrated by the lack of casting skills of some of his clients and suggesting that practicing in the park did little to prepare people for the real world of fly fishing. As with most of these “discussions” on forums some heat was generated and no consensus was reached but some interesting points were raised. Many of us practice in the park and I know there are other CCIs and aspiring CCIs who freely give of their time and expertise to help people develop their casting skills so I thought it would be a good topic to explore for this month’s column.



Sifting through the three or four pages of posts on this thread there were obviously two sides to the argument and both camps made valid points. To some casting in the park was a waste of time because it was not preparation for the reality of casting in real fishing situations. Others saw it as the place where foundations were laid and basic skills developed. Some cast for the sheer enjoyment of forming loops while others were only interested in learning how to deliver a fly. Being a lurker I didn’t contribute to the forum and I am not going to use this column now to rekindle the debate. What I would like to do is reflect on my own experience and look at how I see the pros and cons of park casting versus casting in the real world.

I’ve done a lot of park casting in my time and still try to do so regularly. Casting in the park is convenient, easy and encourages practice when you haven’t got the time to go to the water. I’ve used my time in the park to work on many aspects of my casting. All the lawn casting I have done has made me a better caster. When practicing in the park there’s time to watch what you are doing, analyze your mistakes and get it right. But as I see it there are three aspects of park casting that fail to address the needs of real life fishing situations. I can understand how a guide could easily be frustrated by a client who has not taken these into account when practicing in the park.

I’ve just returned from two weeks on the South Island of New Zealand. Of the fish we caught many were within 20 feet of the tip of the rod. Given the long leader and inevitable wind, making an accurate cast was not easy. When we practice in the park we tend to have 30 feet or more of line out and use short leaders. We usually only practice on good days. We can easily convince ourselves that we can cast accurately. But in New Zealand I can recall a number of fish I missed because I couldn’t get my first cast to land where I wanted it to. Practicing in the park improves accuracy but it needs to involve short casts – sometimes with only a leader. I guess that’s why I like the Orvis Master your Casting Program² and continue to advocate its use. It starts with casts at 20 feet!



The second problem with park casting is that it usually takes place in good weather and our approach can be casual and relaxed. What better way to spend a few hours than standing in a sunny park watching your loops sails through a light breeze! You can practice your curve casts over and over again knowing that the wind is coming from the right angle and it doesn't matter if your line gets tangled on a witch's hat. If you miss the target the first time you can do it again until you get it just right. The reality was brought home to me on my New Zealand trip when I had to make a curve cast around a matagouri bush to a fish tucked in under the willows. There were no second chances and not getting it right would mean spooking the fish or having the "matagouri monster" eat my line. I'd like to be able to report I nailed the cast but even after practicing curve casts on the lawn many times I wasn't confident I could pull it off and took the easy way out by entering the water giving myself a straight line cast to the fish. The fish took the fly first cast and I landed my one and only fish for that day.

Real life fishing situations put you under pressure. In the park it doesn't matter if you don't nail the cast first time. You simply pick up the line and do it again. In the world of fishing, especially trout fishing in New Zealand, you have to make the first cast count. You don't have the time or the luxury of making a number of false casts to judge your distance. Big New Zealand trout don't get that big without learning to avoid signs of danger. I'm not big on competitive fishing but I am an advocate of competition casting. I don't enjoy it but I know it sharpens my casting skills. Admittedly in some disciplines you get to make a number of false casts but you still have to make that first presentation count. Maybe if we made our park casting a little more competitive it would be much better preparation for fishing.



The third problem I see with park casting is that too often we only practice the easy things that we enjoy doing. There's nothing wrong with that because the more practice you do the more muscle memory you develop and the more consistent your casting becomes. Unfortunately, if you only practice the easy casts you won't be prepared for the real world of fly fishing. I don't recall any fish in New Zealand that I cast to without having to deal with challenges such as the wind, bushes in front and behind, drag, casting off my opposite shoulder, using a long leader and probably a few others. Countering these challenges requires a level of casting that goes beyond what we usually practice in the park. I remember a story from the American Master Casting Instructor Gordy Hill who prepared his students for bonefish trips by sitting them on top of a step ladder and asking them to cast at a remote controlled buggy as it zigzagged across the lawn in front of them. Although not the reality of standing on the bow of a skiff in the Bahamas it was the best way Gordy could make practicing in the park meaningful.

You can't become an effective fly fisher by only practicing when you go fishing. You will eventually get better but you probably won't catch many fish and you will annoy the hell out of anyone you happen to be fishing with. No one gets to be a competent fly fishing without practicing in the park at some time. You just need to make sure your casting in the park reflects the real fishing scenarios that you encounter. That's my contribution to the argument and I'll leave you to decide where you stand. I'm off now to practice in the park.

¹ Fly Fishers International is an international organization headquartered in Livingston, Montana. FFI trains and certifies casting instructors in two tiers—Certified Casting Instructor (CCI) and Master Casting Instructor (MCI).

² "Orvis Master Your Fly Casting From Novice To Masters" by Jim C. Chapralis.



Loading the Rod

March 2018

One of the questions that you are asked when doing your casting instructors exam is about loading a rod. I remember my mentor, Roy, telling me to answer “loading the rod is bending the rod” and not to say anything more unless the examiners asked. Back then I thought I was lucky because they didn’t ask for more information and we moved on. I know a lot more about loading a rod now and consider it to be the main reason why some people can cast and others struggle. Loading the rod is the essence of fly casting and should be understood by everyone.



Had I been asked to elaborate on my answer about loading the rod I would have explained that the rod flexes when pulled against the weight of the fly line and then unflexes when the rod is stopped. This transfers energy to the fly line and the fly is cast. I probably would have got away with that answer even though there is much more to it than that. Nowadays, when I see beginners failing to grasp the concept of a cast or more experienced casters unable to straighten their leader or shoot line I know the problem lies in their inability to load the rod.

Loading a rod sounds so simple yet it is a complex task. The first step in loading a rod is to have sufficient fly line out of the rod tip so that when the rod starts to move it meets with resistance and bends. For that to happen you have to remove the slack and start pulling the line with the rod tip. Pulling is the operative word. Pushing and punching won’t work effectively (you know who you are!) Once the line starts moving and the rod bends there must be an acceleration of the rod to maintain the bend. The rod tip must always be moving faster than the following line.... until the stop. The stop is essential to make the rod unload and transfer energy to the fly line. The secret to all this is smooth, constant acceleration of the rod. If you are prone to tailing loops this is usually where the problems start.

Actually, you don’t need to load a rod to make a cast. You can cast with a broomstick if you like. In fact you can cast the line with no rod at all. It’s worth having a go at casting the line just by pulling the line through your hands. Try it. It can be done. The fact that you never see someone casting without a rod tells you it is not very effective. A flexible rod and a line to load it is the way to make an efficient cast.

Some rods load more easily than others. The aforementioned broomstick doesn’t load at all. A few rods I have owned over the years almost fall into that category. Some manufacturers produce very stiff rods to help the caster generate more line speed and cast further. When casting with these rods timing is critical. If you do not speed up and stop at the right time the rod is difficult to load. Most casters prefer a rod that loads more slowly and lets you feel it bending.

Graphite rods load and unload easily and have become the weapon of choice for most modern casters. Graphite is light, strong and flexes in a controlled manner; all properties that are sought after by manufacturers and casters alike. There are, however, rod building materials that have been around for years that are still favoured because of the way they load and unload. The reason that fiberglass and bamboo is still used today is that these materials load well. The weight of the rod itself aids flexing and can reduce the time and effort needed to load a rod.

We all know you can cast almost any line on almost any rod. Maybe it might not be an efficient cast but you can do it. If you have never tried casting a 5 weight rod with a 10 weight line or a 10 weight rod with a 5 weight line you should do it. It will teach you a lot about loading a rod and how you need to vary your casting arc to match the amount of bend that you put in the rod.



Ideally, a rod loads best with the line weight it has been designed for. I am sure you are familiar with the AFTMA¹ system of line and rod ratings. If you have a 6 weight rod and you cast the first 30 feet of a 6 weight line that rod should load effectively. If you are only casting 10 feet of

line you will have much less weight in the line to bend that rod. And conversely, if you cast 60 feet of the line it will be adding considerably to the weight the rod is pulling and the rod will bend more. AFTMA ratings are not set in concrete and you should experiment with line weights to match your rod and casting situation. Sometimes a rod you thought was a dog can become your favourite just by matching it with the right line. Some people like to upline their rod thinking the extra weight will help load the rod. Don't be afraid to downline the rod and work on your casting stroke to achieve the same result. Many distance casters downline their rods because they want to carry long lengths of line in the air.

Fly rods bend in different places. For short casts you only need to load the tip of the rod with a short casting stroke. As you carry more line and attempt to cast further you need to load the rod further towards the butt.

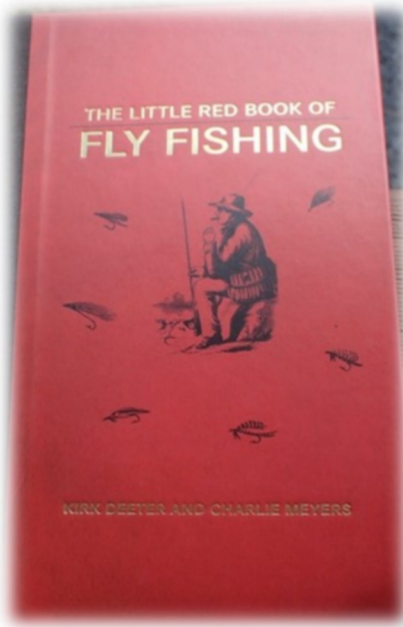
Manufacturers make rods that are designed to bend in different ways. A tip action rod will obviously bend more in the tip and would be a good rod for short accurate casts. A full action rod will bend all the way through the blank and would be a good choice for throwing big flies a long way with wide open loops. No matter what the action of your rod you should know how to make it cast from the tip to the butt if you want to master fly casting.



On my first trip to Christmas Island when my first cast went astray my guide scolded me with the words "load the rod". It hurt missing my chance at a bonefish and it hurt being told something I should have known. I was tempted to protest my excuse that I was casting with the wind and had very little line out of the tip of the rod to make it load but it was hard to argue with him when the fly did not land near the fish. Loading and unloading the fly rod is the secret to making a cast work. If you want more distance, if you want to cast in the wind or if you want more accuracy you have to learn to load and unload the rod. The best way to learn this is to get out some different rods and lines and experiment.

¹AFTMA stands for American Fly Tackle Manufacturer's Association which provides a standard scale of line weights. The manufacturers weigh the first 30 feet excluding the level tip and rate the line accordingly - the heavier the line, the greater the AFTMA number.

BOOK REVIEW



"THE LITTLE RED BOOK OF FLY FISHING"

by Kirk Deeter and Charlie Meyers.

What a great book and reference tool. Very easy to read with very short passages covering many tips to do with this wonderful recreation, hobby, pastime or whatever you want to call fly fishing.

I commenced reading it as soon as I received same in post from the Book Depository and was unable to put it down, read it from cover to cover in two days. Definitely will read again and will often

refer to it again and again as indicated on the back cover.



I whole heartedly recommend this book to everyone and it is available from the Book Depository with Free World-wide delivery for A\$22.84 (Price Currently is with 21% off). The postage from the UK is quick utilizing the Royal Mail service, less than two weeks to receive.

Contact <http://www.bookdepository.com/contactus>

Stuart MacAulay, Editor, DFFC Newsletter

DFFC ANNUAL DINNER SATURDAY 27th OCTOBER

We are looking for a member to volunteer/s to Coordinate the running of the 2018 Annual Dinner. Please give this some

thought and advise the Secretary prior to, or at our next meeting in April.



Basic Fly Tying weekend – Lodge

17 – 18 March 2018

Twelve members only made it to this weekend. Stan Laskey our Guru Club fly tier came up courtesy of David Best for the Saturday in the company of Noel Walker who sacrificed his opportunity to be on the world stage in a Dungeon looking to effectively slay Dragons in a most effective manner. Stan took those attending through the basics of the nymph proportions and tying emergers (various), then to the Dun and all based on the original nymph pattern.

It was a fantastic day where all attendees learnt lots of new information on tying flies and the old hats at fly tying also learnt from each other and Stan different ways of tying some of their favourites. In my case the Bibio and the Duck fly, I learnt a different way of tying the Duck Fly called Cloaking which involves much less wastage of Black duck feather and also better coverage of hook, finished product looks more like something a fish would eat.

There were lots of yarns, (Not of the Fly Tyig kind) told, most of which had us all laughing heaps. Some will remain only with those present. We discussed through yarns the history, good and bad of Talbots, Some past presidents. Some great fishing stories some no doubt embellished somewhat. Disappearing fish tales at long ago Bronte Camp where fish were replaced with cardboard cut-outs of fish.



Other attendees were President John Hepburn, Barry Jacobson, Stephen Ninnies, Vanessa Clarke, Liana Clarke and I.

We should have lots more of these days up at the lodge.

Stuart MacAulay

Editor

DON'T FORGET WE ARE LOOKING FOR COORDINATOR/S OF ANNUAL DINNER

LAMBERT'S DAM FISHING TRIPS IN APRIL

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

JOIN THE CLUB MANAGEMENT TEAM