DEVONPORT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018
VOLUME 25 NO 4

OUR AIM
"TO PROMOTE ALL FACETS OF FLY FISHING & GOOD FELLOWSHIP"

Club Postal Address Club Inc.

Devonport Fly Fishing Club Inc.
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BRONTE CAMP – 6th to 11th January 2019

Office Bearers 2017 - 2018

Patron	Ashley Artis, Geoff Winspear		
President	John Hepburn		64245113
Senior Vice President	Stan Laskey		64241678
Junior Vice President	Danny Thomas	0429027904	64354240
Secretary	Bruce Marshall		64282197
Assistant Secretary	John Leonard	0418567068	
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Booking Officer	Barry Jacobson	0409 947185	
Bronte Camp Contact	Noel Walker		64242244

Life Members George Surman, Peter Burr, David Best, Barry Jacobson, Wayne Bellette

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

IFS OPEN DAY

19TH & 20TH MAY

Please make note in your diaries now for this annual event and also to assist with Lodge Working bee. We will also be promoting the Bronte Camp at this event.

CASTING PRACTICE WINSPEARS DAM

SUNDAY 3RD JUNE

Mark this date in your diaries now so we get practice in for inter club challenge

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 Winspears 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 Winter School Holidays	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
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. Devon Lodge Tying Mayflies, Duns and Emergers.	Sun, 19-Aug-18

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. Their will be 3 lake and 2 stream venues." - Norm Day https://www.wffc2019.com/

Draft Minutes

DEVONPORT FLY FISHING CLUB INC.

Ordinary Meeting held on 26th April 2018

The Chairman, John Hepburn welcomed all members, guests Scott Harrison and Chris Smith and new member Mike Shaw to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

Meeting Opened: 7.33pm.

Attendance: 25

Apologies: Norm Day, Tony Scott and Col Morley.

Previous Minutes: Moved Stuart MacAulay, seconded by David Best, that the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated were a true and accurate record. **Carried.**

Business arising from minutes of previous meeting.

Annual Dinner – discussed in general business.

A thank you letter to be sent to IFS regarding track improvement at Hut Bay.

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

Correspondence Inwards:

Garry Quinton – membership application.

Richard Haymon – SAFFA eBulletin.

Brian Tolagson – Hastings Flyfishers April newsletter.

Barry Jacobson- notifying that the batteries in the smoke alarms for Devon Lodge have been changed.

Howard Jones – invitation to attend a multi species challenge day on Georges Bay.

Anna Bellette – list of flies that Brian McCullagh will be tying at the fly tying weekend in June. (The club moved a vote of thanks to Anna for preparing and printing booklets to be distributed at the event. Moved Stan Laskey, seconded Percy Gardner. Carried.)

Steadfast Taswide Insurance Brokers – Lodge Insurance account updated to new premium.

AAT and others – Lake Malbena proposal.

Correspondence Outwards:

Garry Quinton – membership booklet.

Moved Stan Laskey, seconded by Stuart MacAulay, that the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards confirmed. **Carried.**

Business arising from Correspondence

Lake Malbena proposal, see general business.

Reports

Camp committee:

The next meeting of the Camp Committee will be on 8th May. One expression of interest returned for the 2019 Bronte Camp.

Devon Lodge Management Committee:

Phil reported on the recent DLMC meeting and listed the following as being considered.

Purchase of ladders, one for use inside and one for use outside to be used for cleaning the spouting and changing exterior light bulbs.

The flue is leaking and needs to be repaired and extended above the roof line.

Establish a mobile phone charging station.

Investigate an online booking system for the lodge.

Provision of a bench and hooks to hang towels and clothes on in the new bathroom.

Having a maintenance weekend towards the end of the year to do more site clearing.

Establishment and marking of boundaries of the block. The eastern boundary is done.

Making the kitchen more user friendly.

Quotes will be sought where needed and submitted next meeting. Other tasks will proceed as the committee is able to do them.

Phil reported that Jim Davie has installed a storage cupboard at the end of the hallway. The club extends a thank you to Jim for his work.

Fishing trips:

Lambert's Dam – Saturday 28th April at 2.00pm.

One Fly Competition will be held early in the season at Little Pine Lagoon. The date is to be advised.

It was suggested that we have a BBQ at Lambert's Dam on opening day next season. Reid will seek permission from Mark Lambert for us to do this.

Fishing reports:

The recent trip to Lambert's Dam was not as good as the previous trip. The fish were down deep and feeding mainly on snails. Fourteen members attended the session and the fish caught were generally over a kilo. It was moved that the club write to the IFS and thank them for stocking the dam and give a report on how it is fishing. Moved David Best, seconded Percy Gardner. Carried. It was resolved that we keep a record of the number of fish caught.

Percy reported that he and David had a trip to Lake Burbury and to St Helens. The wind lanes on Lake Burbury are fishing well and they caught 24 fish in good condition that were between 800g and a kilo. At St Helens, they fished in the bay, catching two barrel pike and king fish on the fly as well as King George whiting.

Newsletter: John to be in touch with Craig Newman who had previously volunteered to take on the role of newsletter editor.

Fly tying:

Stan reported that nine members attended the fly tying session and that it will be on again on the second Thursday in May.

General Business

Christine Williams reported on the Girls Gone Fishing weekend held at Peter Hayes, Cressy.

She said that there were 24 participants from all around Australia. Dorothee Williams, who, with her husband runs a guiding business on Bathurst Island was the guest speaker. Peter Hayes, Val and Bob Young and Roy Wybrow were instructors for the weekend. Christine commented on the increase in the number of women involved in Fly fishing.

It was moved by Mike Shaw and seconded by David Best that the Devonport Fly Fishing Club Inc oppose the proposed development on Hall's Island in Lake Malbena.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The reasons stated for opposing the development were the level of disruption and impact on wilderness caused by regular helicopter flights. The increase in visitors, because of air access on a fragile alpine ecosystem, will lead to a degradation of the wilderness values of the area.

Members expressed a desire that the area be left alone so that subsequent generations can experience it as we have had the privilege of doing.

The club will submit a statement to the Federal Minister Environmental based on the concerns raised.

There was discussion on the annual dinner and the level of support last year. Stuart, who has co-ordinated the dinner for a few years, indicated that it needed strong support from the club. There was also discussion around the venue, timing and whether we have a dinner. It was moved by David Best and seconded by Christine Williams that we have an annual dinner in the same format as last year. The motion was carried. Christine also volunteered to co -ordinate the annual dinner this year.

The following constitution amendment regarding family membership will be put at the AGM.

Rule 5.2

5. (2) A family granted family membership as provided in these rules are eligible to be members of the Club on payment of the annual subscription prescribed in, or fixed under, these rules;

Family membership can be granted to a person, their partner and junior children.

Both adult partners of a family shall have full voting rights.

A junior is a person under 18 years of age.

Be amended to read

5. (2) A family granted family membership as provided in these rules are eligible to be members of the Club on payment of the annual subscription prescribed in, or fixed under, these rules;

Family membership can be granted to a person, their partner and junior children.

Family membership can be granted to a person, their partner and junior grandchildren.

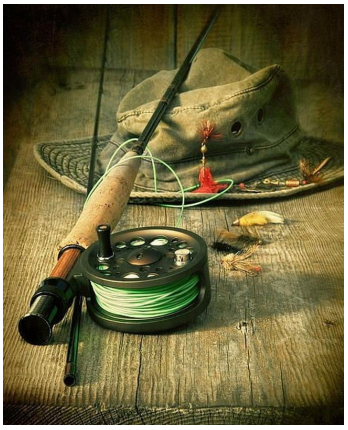
Both adult partners of a family shall have full voting rights.

A junior is a person under 18 years of age.

On the issue of membership applications and acknowledgement of them, it was moved by Stan Laskey and seconded by Percy Gardner that there be no change. The motion was carried.

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

Meeting Closed: 9.44pm.



A tribute to Rex Bramich

13.10.1932 to 9.4.2018

Rex Bramich & Neil Button were the two people who put a notice in the paper with the intention of forming a local fly fishing club.

"Are you interested in forming a Fly fishing Club?
If so come along to the Devonport Library on the 31st October at 7.30pm"

He often said to me little did we realise that the club would have 230 plus members
Rex was Snr. VP for the next 3 years

Rex was on the committee who started the 4 Springs Dam project and help make it what it is today. Before The Devonport Fly club started Rex ran and helped with Sport and Rec. fishing camps for many years. For a lot of years Rex was the President of Devonport branch of the NW Fisheries Association before it was all restructured and was also the delegate to the NW Fisheries Association.

When Sport and Rec ceased the fishing camps the club took over the running of these.
Rex helped out with the camp with many different rolls.
He also helped me with the water and toilets.
Rex did not attend the camp the last 2 years or so as Fae was in ill health.
Rex was a man when doing anything, whatever it was, making Fly's, gardening or wood turning
It had to be 100% or you did not do it at all.
I used to visit Rex every Tuesday at 3.00pm for coffee.

He was a tower of knowledge whether it was animals, birds or weeds.
Over the years a group of us, all club members went camping at different sea side spots and lakes.
Rex had a Volkswagen camper van and they had everything in it if we were camping, and if you had left something behind Fae had it

R I P old mate
George Surman

Excuses

April 2018

It's about this time each month that I start looking for an excuse not to write another Casting Around. "Nobody reads it." "I can't think of anything to write about." "I've got to go fishing." Despite all these excuses I eventually stop procrastinating and start writing. After all I need an excuse to show off my new, colourful banner.

When it comes to casting I've heard plenty of excuses why people can't cast. I'm sure you have too. If you have been fly fishing for a while no doubt you have had people come up to you and say "I wish I could cast like that!" They usually go on to offer their excuses why they can't cast as well as you do. Maybe if we examine some of these excuses and offer some solutions it can help us all become better casters.

The most common excuse I hear is that" I taught myself!" There's nothing wrong with teaching yourself and in fact most of us started out that way. The problem is that self taught casters rarely reach their potential due to a lack of knowledge about the essential mechanics of casting. When you watch a good caster in action you can see the difference. Teaching yourself can be slow and lead to bad habits. On your own you have no way of knowing what bad habits you have developed and what you can do to rectify them.

In this day and age there is no excuse for being self taught. By all means read the books, watch the videos and get out there and try for yourself. But if you really want to learn to cast you must find out how to do it properly. And the best way to do that is seek help from someone who can do it better than you –someone who understand the mechanics of what makes a cast work. Enter the casting instructor. There are plenty of casting instructors around who provide lessons for a modest fee. If they have a professional certification you can be assured they are going to get you started on the right track and nip those bad habits in the bud. Many sports people pay for lessons and fly casters should consider it too.

If you don't want to pay for professional instruction the next best option is to join a club. Most clubs have certified casting instructors amongst their ranks and those who don't are sure to have experienced and accomplished casters who can set you on the right track. There is no substitute for having someone watch your cast and provide feedback on what is going wrong and what to do about it. I should point out that as an instructor I am happy to help people at a club level but I leave the individual lessons to those who earn their living that way.

"I don't have time to practice" is another excuse trotted out to explain less than perfect casting skills. In this busy world time is a precious commodity.

Little wonder that most of us proffer a lack of time as an excuse for not doing something about our casting. Learning to cast well takes practice and practice takes time. If you are time poor there are some hacks you can use to make the most of your limited time to practice.

1. Get a wool practice rod. You can buy a commercially available rod or you can make your own. The beauty of these rods is you can use them indoors or outdoors at any time. Although you are only casting a few feet of wool the techniques required are the same as you need to cast a proper rod. Keep it in the office, on the back verandah or in the car and get it out and practice whenever you need a few minutes break from your regular routine.

2. Learn to visualize and pantomime. Fly casting is a mental as well as physical skill. You can visualize the casting stroke at any time and you don't need any equipment. Picture yourself making the perfect cast and think about the movements involved. If you want to take it a step further pantomime the cast with a pencil or ruler and go through the motions of casting. Time spent visualizing and pantomiming will result in improved casting when you go fishing. You can do a lot while sitting at a desk or in a car or standing in front of a mirror. Take a look at the videos of Joan Wulff, Mel Krieger and Tom White[1] to see how to use visualization and pantomime to make the most of your practice time.

3. Keep a fly rod in your hand as often as you can. How often do you see kids juggling a football with their feet or catching and throwing a ball? That's how they develop their skills. If you have a fly rod rigged and ready to use pick it up whenever you can and practice making tight loops. Take it with you when you walk the dog or water the garden. The more you get used to controlling the fly rod the better your casting will become.

You only need to read any fly fishing forum, attend a casting day or meet someone out fishing to have heard this last excuse. "I only have this cheap rod and that is why I can't cast!" Just as a poor tradesperson blames their tools, poor fly casters are quick to blame their fly rod. In my years of fly fishing and instructing I have only ever come across one rod that I could say was to blame. I won't mention names but if you were to see this person casting now you would see the difference a rod can make.

In almost every case the rod is not the problem. Some rods make casting easier, some rods match a person's style and some rods are designed for particular circumstances. But a rod is a rod and as I said last month if you know your stuff you can cast a broomstick if you have to. No one wants to cast a broomstick so eventually we all settle on a rod we can afford and does the job for us. Those who spend their fly casting lives searching for the perfect fly rod will search in vain. The sooner you learn that it is not the rod that makes the cast but the person the sooner you casting can improve.

If I can offer one piece of advice regarding choosing a fly rod it is to buy the best rod you can afford and stick with it. Searching for that better rod is no substitute for getting to know how to use the rod you have. Back in the days when I was learning to cast and still at work I bought the most expensive rod on the market. Every mistake I made with that rod had to be my fault. I think it made me a better caster because I couldn't use it as an excuse.

Being self taught, not having time to practice, and not having a good rod are reasons for not casting well; not excuses. We all want to be better casters. To do that there is no substitute for learning how to cast properly and practice. The next time you hear someone offering excuses for their casting you need to ask do they really want to become a better caster.

[1]Dynamics of Fly Casting (DVD) by Joan Wulī

The Essence of Fly Casting (DVD) by Mel Krieger

Efficient Fly Casting, Vol 2: The Roll Cast (VHS) by Darrell Prowse featuring Tom White

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ANNUAL DINNER

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2018

"PLEASE MAKE NOTE IN YOUR CALENDARS NOW"

CHRISTINE WILLIAMS IS COORDINATING THIS GREAT ANNUAL EVENT

VENUE: FORTH COMMUNITY HALL

680 MAIN FORTH ROAD, FORTH

SMORGASBOARD - ALL YOU CAN EAT

CATERER: JANICE ARCHIE OF ARCHIES SECRET CAFÉ

BYO Own drinks - coffee and Tea will be provided.

(Please set this date aside now and come and enjoy great Fellowship with fellow members and guests)

Raffle and also Lucky prize

More details to come in future NL's about Guest Currently being sought

Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc

Established in 1956, this club aims to encourage the arts of fly tying and fly fishing

Fly Tying Day

With Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club

Lenah Valley RSL

188 Lenah Valley Rd, Lenah Valley

Saturday 30th June 2018

Between 10 AM to 4 PM
Bar and Lunch facilities will be available

Bring your Vice and Fly Tying Gear along and join with the Fly Tyers Club in a winter tying session.

An opportunity to share and learn new patterns and techniques.

Break for Lunch at 12 noon.
Lunch Menu will be all you can eat $20.
Bar will be open.

FLY TYING WEEKEND WITH BRIAN MCCULLAGH
16th/17th June 2018

If you are interested in fly tying, this is the weekend for you.

Our guest tyer this year is Brian McCullagh from the Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club in Hobart. Brian has been a guide at London Lakes for many years, a teacher within his own business, "Rod and Vice fly tying fishing school" running commercial fly tying classes two nights per week and during the evening running an evening class for the Tasmanian Fly Tyers in Hobart once per week which lasted 20 years.

Brian has been involved in and also a member of Fly Fish Australia, Captain and manager of Australian Fly Fishing teams representing Australia in World Championships. He has tied at the Bronte Tie-In and most recently at the Great Lake Tie-In.

Saturday, Brian will demonstrate patterns such as the Leech Pattern, March Brown Spider, Mallard and Claret (English Wet), Claret nymphs and more.

Sunday, Brian will discuss line types and how to fish them, correct drogue set up and have his boat to show and to explain set up.

Where: Devonport Fly Fishing Club Lodge, Jones Road, Miena.

Accommodation: $12 per night.

Book with Barry Jacobson 0409 947 185 barryg.jacobson@gmail.com

Meal cost: $5 per day or $15 per weekend, Children U14 free. Cost includes 2x Breakfast, 2x BBQ lunch, 2x morning and afternoon tea. All meals served at Devon Lodge.

Book with George Surman for catering purposes no later than 8th June.

gvsurman@bigpond.com

Saturday Night: Dinner at the Central Highlands lodge "at your own cost" Book with Barry Jacobson.

Bookings essential

as places are limited.

BRONTE REFRESHER # 2

14TH & 15TH APRIL

Only 8 members were able to attend but those that did had a fantastic time furthering their casting skills whilst the weather held up on the Saturday. Bruce Marshall was able to take us through some skills passed onto him by an instructor in Canada. These skills enable the caster to graduate slowly at own pace all the time easily being able to watch your back cast as well as your forward cast and get the tempo and loops right before progressing. I for one have found this much easier than the way I was originally taught and believe that with this method will finally be able to master the double hauling, an area of my casting that has always alluded me.

Wayne Bellette was able to finesse our casting skills as well and I'm sure that all who attended left with a lot further knowledge and things to practice. The weather slowly packed it in as the day went and by late afternoon we had our first hint of the cold to come. A bit of sleet and the odd snow flake amongst it was evident by early evening.

We all retired for a most enjoyable meal at the Highland Lodge, even the deer were expecting the weather to turn bad and several were seen at the dam adjacent to the Highland lodge.

A bit of saw milling was evident during the night, yours truly was awakened a couple of times and on the last occasion was too scared to fall asleep again. On the second occasion I went to the bathroom and noticed ice hitting the window, proceeded to look out the rear door of lodge, this was approx. 4:00 am, wind was still howling and snow falling heavily, all the cars were covered. This was the first real big dump for the Autumn. Absolutely beautiful but cold.

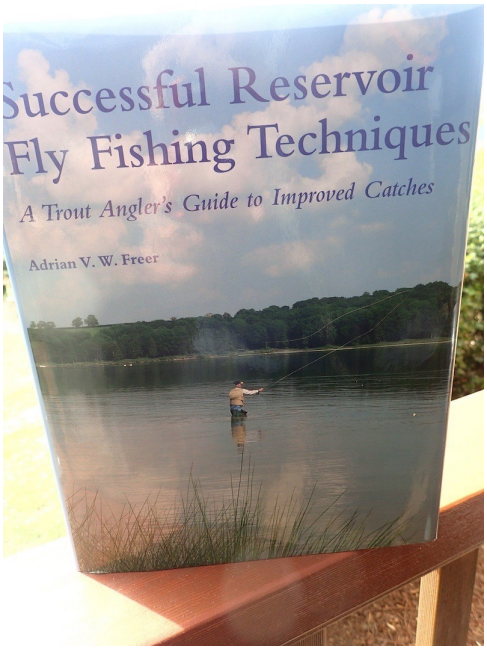
All and all a great weekend yet again at the lodge, can't wait till the next opportunity to avail myself with a further stay at this very comfortable lodge and enjoy comradery with fellow members.

Newsletter Editor

Stuart MacAulay

BOOK REVIEW

"Successful Reservoir Fly Fishing Techniques" **by Adrian V.W. Freer**



A Trout Angler's Guide to Improved Catches. I purchased this book because we do our fishing in similar circumstances in some of our bigger farm dams and impoundments and we also have access to many smaller impoundments such as the Huntsman, Four Springs to name but a few which have similarities to the English Reservoirs.

I was right in that there were a number of great ideas discussed in this book that can also be utilised in Tasmania. Many of the threats to a wonderful sport/pastime were discussed in the "Future of Fly Fishing" and we are certainly not alone in this area in Tasmania. The public profile of our sport is not great and it is for those currently enjoying their Fly Fishing to get out and be great Ambassadors and never miss an opportunity to introduce someone to this greatest of all pastimes – Fly Fishing and better still if it is a child.

I Quote from the Book Depository site the following:

"Fly fishing for trout is a fascinating and addictive sport but is one where only experience, skill and the ability to 'think problems through' logically will lead to constant success. This invaluable book, written by an angler with over fifty years of fishing experience, is essential reading for all those trout anglers who wish to improve their catches."

I whole heartedly recommend this book to everyone and it is available from the Book Depository with Free World-wide delivery for A$34.50 (Price Currently is with 42% 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

BIG THANK YOU TO NEW MEMBERS FOR PROVIDING ARTICLES ON FOLLOWING 4 PAGES

MUCH APPRECIATED AND MAKES THE NL EDITOR'S TASK SOMEWHAT EASIER

EDITOR

DON'T FISH ALONE

Always let someone knows where you are, have some way of contacting others in case of emergency or better still don't fish alone.

I was fortunate enough to be on hand when another of our members fell whilst wading at Little Pine Lagoon and the cold could have been potentially deadly if he was not able to obtain immediate assistance.

I had an incident recently whilst fishing in the Leven River at Gunn's Plains. I was suffering from the Head cold virus that has been going around recently. I should have cancelled but not getting out to fish anywhere as much as I would like I was a little selfish and not thinking that I could have affected the fellow member who took me fishing I went anyway.

My good mate Angus is my normal constant companion & is very intelligent, I'm sure he would alert someone if he had to.

We were sitting having a bite to eat for lunch when a fish started to rise in front of us at the Bannon's Bridge. I targeted this fish with a dry fly and to obtain a better position to cast from meant I had to wade a small shallow water course to Small Island in middle of river.

Anyway, fish went down for whatever reason, I was in process of changing to a nymph leader to fish the idyllic main rapid, I suddenly became dizzy, sweaty and felt nauseous, I remember putting my head down but that is the last I recall until I came to lying on my left side, my left arm and sleeve were soaked. I knew I had passed out and just lay there for several minutes whilst regaining my composure. In the meantime, a motor vehicle with single occupant crossed the Bannon Bridge, paused, occupant looked down may have seen me but maybe not and just kept going.

I carefully got up and proceeded carefully back across the river and made contact again with my fishing companion, fellow club member who had requested me to go fishing and advised her of what had occurred. I realise this could have been fatal if it had occurred when I was nymph fishing the main river on other side of island as this flow ended up in a long deep pool.

My point is being careful out there as these incidents don't have a habit of telegraphing the looming danger.

Stuart MacAulay

Editor

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10 DAY HOLIDAY - APRIL 2018.

FLY FISHING TASMANIA'S HIGHLAND LAKES

We set off from Sydney on Saturday morning driving to Melbourne to get aboard the Spirit of Tasmania for our night sailing to Devonport.

After a smooth voyage, the next morning we arrived in Devonport, purchasing all our requirements for our stay in the highlands town of Miena. While passing through Deloraine, we noticed the distant mountains were covered in low heavy cloud & the hills had a white coating!

The drive up to the tablelands was non eventful until we rounded the last corner & crested the hill to find the cloud had turned to sleet & the ground was covered in snow. To add to the situation the wind was absolutely howling from the SW.

After a slow trip through the snow & slush we arrived at the DFFC Lodge.

Took a few photos & after a quick look around we unloaded all our gear & setup home for the next 9 days. It was 0 degrees outside & the wind was still howling.

It was time to light the fire, have lunch & discuss our next move.

The next morning wasn't much better at 0 degrees, with sleet & a howling wind. We went for a drive along Little Pine but the weather had completely blown it out. We turned around & proceeded on to Penstock Lagoon. We first checked the ladies wall [we caught a lot of fish there last year on duns when the westerlies were howling] but with low water & plenty of weed we continued on to the main dam wall. The sleet had turned to light rain but the wind was impossibly strong. Penstock was also blown out. Back to camp, watch dvd's & plan tomorrow.

Tuesday morning started with slight wind but fine weather. Went to Little Pine & fished the untouchables shore. Garry lost a very good brown on a wet fly. Had weight but snapped the tippet. That afternoon drove back to Penstock & walked the wall & about ½ kilometre of shore but saw nothing.

Next morning up at 5.00am had breakfast [-1 deg] & went to Little Pine. Started walking the western shore at 6.00am [-5 deg] with no wind for about 4 hrs, but saw nothing.

Thursday saw clear skies & no wind so we decided to head to the Western Lakes.

Drove up to Lake Kay car park & walked the 1.5 klm. of frozen track to the lake. Saw a lot of fish but they were very spooky. Garry was tying on a new fly & had his leader & nymph hanging just over the edge in the water when a brown hit the nymph but didn't hook up. I found a fish working a small bay so I stopped to work it's direction. Moments later it appeared right in front of me & sat motionless on the bottom. I tried to slowly reposition my fly into his area, but he soon spooked. We had a coffee & walked back to the car, again empty handed.

Friday again started a beautiful day [14 degrees] so we decided to fish the Little Pine river outlet. We walked the western shore to the river mouth & hooked a small brown about ¾ kg on a #16 Adams parachute Emerger. Later we hooked another nice brown [1.3 kg] on the #16 Adams parachute Emerger.

Saturday was another beautiful day [14 degrees] so we decided to walk the cricket pitch direction again back to the river mouth. Apparently the snow was melting in the higher lakes & the Little Pine River was running. We caught one small brown on the Adams parachute from Tailers shore & 4 browns all about 1.2 kg. on a mix of small dries, [#16 Kozi duns & #14 deer hair caddis] & Emergers, [Adams para & #14 shaving brush] in the river mouth. That afternoon we tried Little Pine western shore for nil fish.

"**On the way back we were talking to a fisherman who was fishing the untouchables shore out of the wind. The water was dead smooth & his fly line lay straight out with a Jassid dry attached. During our conversation he turned to us to talk & a fish took his dry – in all the frenzy, he lost the fish. We apologised to him for disturbing him & quickly walked off. Later in the day when the members who attended the fly casting lessons arrived back at the club house, we noticed one of them was the person we spoke to at the untouchables shore & who lost his fish. It was Brian. Thankfully for us, he laughed off the mishap"** We spent the rest of the day & evening talking fishing

We had a lay-day on Sunday but continued back to the Little Pine River early on **Monday** morning [1 deg & no wind] We walked up the river to the narrows & watched a number of fish feeding off the surface. I put out an Adams parachute Emerger & drifted it down with the current & hooked a small brown. I let that fish go & proceeded to do the same thing & caught a second fish from the same spot on the same fly. Finished fishing there & started walking back to the car. Saw a lot & spooked a lot of fish close on the shore line until we arrived at the halfway point back along tailers shore. There must have been about 10 fish tailing & swimming with their backs out of the water just meters offshore.

We tried nymphs & dries but no takes. I put on a large beetle with a olive nymph dropper & this attracted their attention. One fish finally took the olive nymph dropper & after a short fight I netted a nice brown of 1.7kg.

Tuesday morning saw the area blown out by 50 knot NW winds. We walked the cricket pitch shore & saw a number of fish but caught non. That night we walked the untouchables shore & again cast to fish but caught non. I cast to one fish about 5 mtrs. out & must have put whip marks on his back when I lined him with my tippet. I allowed too much for the wind – that was my excuse.

The next morning started at 5 deg with a light NW wind. We again decided to fish Little Pine by walking tailers shore up to the river mouth. We spooked a number of fish close to the shore on the way but nil caught. The wind had picked up from the NW making casting a lot of fun for a right hander. During a lull in the wind, while fishing the river, one fish rose within casting range & a Kozi dun was placed in the current just above the fish. The take was almost a certainty & after a short fight a ¾ kg brown was released. A second fish rose nearby & a Kozi dun dry with an olive nymph dropper was placed above the fish. The fish took the olive dun, but the strike was too fast & the fish was missed. A third fish rose about 15 mtrs. further upriver. The nymph was removed & with the wind now howling down the river, the Kozi dun was belted out to a position above the fish. The drift was almost text book & right on cue the fish took the dry. Again a lovely battle occurred but soon a nice 1.1kg brown was netted. Photos were taken & the fish returned.

With time running out & with a boat to catch back to Melbourne that afternoon, we decided to call it a day & return to the Lodge.

It was great meeting some of the members attending the weekend fly casting event – they are a great bunch & thanks for letting us use the DFFC Lodge.

"Tassie really turned on all its normal weather conditions but we'll be back as soon as the season reopens.

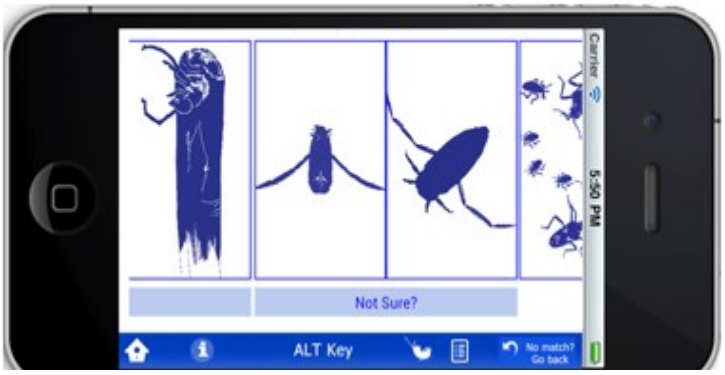
Paul & Garry.

Dirty Hands

April 2018

Landcare Tasmania's monthly bulletin

An easy app for waterbug identification



Our specialist speaker at the MOB at Fernglade was Dr John Gooderham, Freshwater Ecologist with the Waterbug Company. John's work is part of the National Waterbug Blitz, a great citizen science initiative for collecting data on the health of rivers and wetlands around Australia. John showed participants how to collect waterbugs from the river, and how to use the newly developed Waterbug App to identify the bugs which is helping to build a better picture on river health around the country.

The app makes it so easy, using the silhouette of the bug plus a simple key. There are even photos and videos there to help you identify your bug, and help from specialists (mad scientists) on social media such as Facebook. You can save a photo along with your guess as to what it is. Every identification you make contributes to the national database and you gain higher accreditation with the more familiar you become with your patch.

Download the app for free and have a go, it's fun!

We will be running introductory waterbug sessions around the state, so contact us at Landcare Tas if you are interested.
You can find more at http://www.thewaterbug.net/ or on facebook https://www.facebook.com/waterbugface

Casting Day Lodge - Saturday 21 April 2018

What a great day, it would not have been hard to cancel the casting session and go fishing instead, in fact it is hard to remember a more perfect day weather wise in Tasmania where there was not a whisper of wind and all the waters were like a sheet of glass.

Bruce Marshall and myself went up Friday night early and took a pre-cooked Thai Red curry dinner with us courtesy of the MacAulay household Thermomix to be followed by one huge Pavlova also courtesy of the Thermomix to be shared amongst the participants, what a feed, we have now elevated ourselves above the scones somewhat as you will see from the picture. President John made sure he secured the last piece for himself for tomorrow, it probably hasn't done our waste lines any good but what the hell, you have to enjoy life and all its delights I say.

The casting started early morning with Wayne Bellette, Adrian Scott and David Green assisting those members present with their casting issues and we also were given the opportunity to get the double haul going. I personally have issues with timing & coordination but feel sure with plenty of practice at home will get this right. We all then went up to the Highland Lodge Dam to continue on with presentation casting.

I'm sure everyone learned a lot from this and have plenty to practice in their own time. We even had trout rising in the Dam and one even had a go at a bit of Fly indicator casting Fluff on the water. It was a pity that more members did not avail themselves of this opportunity but I'm sure there will be many more opportunities to come.

Bruce and I did not stay on the Saturday night but did stop in briefly at Cameron's Lagoon on way home. We saw a few trout and silly me was casting to one in particular and managed to trick it with a Great Lake Red Tag. The fish came straight towards my fly, I was fishing with the Sun directly behind me but my shadow was nowhere near the fish. The fish proceeded to take the fly but unfortunately yours truly got buck fever and struck way too early rather than letting the fish turn, the result was I reefed it clean out of its mouth. You can imagine the utterances I made under my breath.

Newsletter Internet Links April 2018

The French Leader	http://tinyurl.com/ycav53fb
How to Land and Release Fish When Fly Fishing Alone	http://tinyurl.com/ybxzup3w
Classic Video: How to Remove a Fish Hook from Your Skin	http://tinyurl.com/y9jwmkpo
Holá México Part 3: To swim or not to swim	http://tinyurl.com/y9lv28oo
Make your own barred rubber legs	http://tinyurl.com/y92wante
5 Ways To Prevent Water Drops on GoPro Lens	http://tinyurl.com/ydyuwgm5
How to Tie a Parachute Post (UV-Resin Method)	http://tinyurl.com/y7wamkhb
Fishpond's Five Mantras to Pack By	http://tinyurl.com/yabnlsfb
Orvis has a great new series of videos on fly fishing basics.	http://tinyurl.com/ydd7w6uu
MISCONCEPTION THAT "REAL PHOTOGRAPHERS" ONLY SHOOT IN MANUAL.	http://tinyurl.com/ya3ra5nl
Dragon Fly Nymphs featuring Brian Chan	http://tinyurl.com/yba6veha
Video Tip: The Keys to Making Delicate Presentations	http://tinyurl.com/ycsy58ve
Video: How to Tie a Parachute Post (Needle Method)	http://tinyurl.com/yboaedxr
Video: "My Mom Vala" and the Magic of Greenland	http://tinyurl.com/y7re5tc5
Gluing Knots for Extra Strength	http://tinyurl.com/y9r4f7mf
Line control and playing fish.	http://tinyurl.com/yb3cpbod
5 Tips for Successful Fly-Fishing Family Outings	http://tinyurl.com/ybx2anlx
Video: How to Finish on a Parachute Post	http://tinyurl.com/ycjd4mn6
Elements of Great Fly Fishing Photos	http://tinyurl.com/yca4vhyo
Understanding Fly Line Profiles	http://tinyurl.com/y7lhmow8
Spey Line Recommendations – Updated	http://tinyurl.com/ybm42v6n
Spooling Fly Line Correctly	http://tinyurl.com/y7dzw6bc
Deer hair part I	http://tinyurl.com/ybwjmvqm
How to Setup a Fly Reel	http://tinyurl.com/ybqekc2e
How to Fish Undercut Banks	http://tinyurl.com/y7qasxaz
How to Hackle a Parachute Post with UV-Cure Resin	http://tinyurl.com/ycyzqgl5
Videos: Getting Started in Fly Fishing, Parts I-III	http://tinyurl.com/y8tsvkwf
How to Properly Dress a Dry Fly	http://tinyurl.com/ycbm3b35
Video: Small-Stream Trout on the South Island	http://tinyurl.com/y9dmrond

Video Pro Tip: How to Approach and Cast to a Rising Trout	http://tinyurl.com/ycdkey43
How to Tie and Fish Soft Hackles for More Trout	http://tinyurl.com/yahn2942
Tom's Secret Tips for Fishing Terrestrial Flies	http://tinyurl.com/yam8frzv
Tie Twice the Flies in Half the Time	http://tinyurl.com/yca8geqd
Hoppers & Droppers: The Story Behind Hank Patterson	http://tinyurl.com/y8jfup8q
The 7 Weight is the middle child of fly fishing.	http://tinyurl.com/y7bd7p4w
How to Fly-Cast in Heavy Brush	http://tinyurl.com/ybsekuhb
Understanding Fly-Rod Action	http://tinyurl.com/y7pngoco
Women on the Fly in the Latest Tail Magazine	http://tinyurl.com/y7odkjnp
Orvis RECON: Euro Nymphing Rod Field Test	http://tinyurl.com/yalra6l4
All About Trout Hooks	http://tinyurl.com/y8etpyou
Dry flies and flotation	http://tinyurl.com/y8fzdua5
Slowing Down and Casting Easier Can Improve Your Fly Cast	http://tinyurl.com/yb3sv58d
Casting mechanics	http://tinyurl.com/y8vp5odp
Streamer fishing isn't for everyone.	http://tinyurl.com/ya98tt2c
Video: How to Cast a Fly Rod, the Basics	http://tinyurl.com/yc5z2vvx

FLY TYING

THURSDAY 10TH MAY

SPINNING DEER HAIR - LEARN HOW TO SPIN &TRIM INTO DESIRED SHAPE

YOU WILL NEED:

NORTHERN HEMISPHERE DEER HAIR

MOOSE HAIR

SHORT SHANK WIDE GAPE HOOK SAY #12 (What you would tie a dry fly on)

DECENT HACKLE FEATHERS

DEVONPORT LIBRARY 7:30PM