



The Vice

Newsletter of Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

Volume 9, Issues 1 and 2

Summer Autumn Edition, April 2011



President's Report

On Sunday 27th March some of the members met at patron Barbara Fowler's lovely property, Bendeveron, for the annual casting day. What a beautiful autumn day. The Margaret Knight Dry Fly Trophy was followed by a delicious lunch and then more casting for the Hedley Griggs Wet Fly trophy.

Whilst the casting is a bit of fun among members there is no doubt that casting practice will improve your fishing. More accurate casts, greater distance, roll casting, casting into or across the wind and so on will catch you more fish. No doubt about it. Golfers routinely practice away from the golf course and also engage professional assistance to improve their game and I don't see why fly fishing should be any different.

But don't leave your practice until next season. That's for fishing. Get out there in the parks and back yards and improve your game now. I mentioned in a previous issue that Bruce Barker and I have been working on the Certified Casting Instructor exam under the Federation of FlyFishers Program. By the time you read this issue we will have completed and hopefully passed the exam. It will be good to have two instructors willing to assist and provide future casting days for the club.

What a strange season we've had. Odd weather patterns, indifferent hatches at best from the iconic lakes. Good news at last from Arthurs Lake. Finally, good quality fish had found their way into the shallows. All the signs are looking

good that this premier fishery will return to some of its former glory next season.

Terrific fishing from Woods. Good days, but more bad days on the Great Lake, and some good jassid falls at the end of the season. In the north of the state, it was a similar story. Significant rain washed away the hoppers from the river banks and the usually reliable hopper fishing went with it. However, Four Springs produced good hatches and some outstanding fishing days. How I wish we had a Four Springs lake in the south of the state.

As this season comes to an end I'm very hopeful that next season will be a bumper one. The highland lakes are looking healthy. Lower down, Tooms Lake and Meadowbank should be worth a look earlier in the season. Let's hope so.

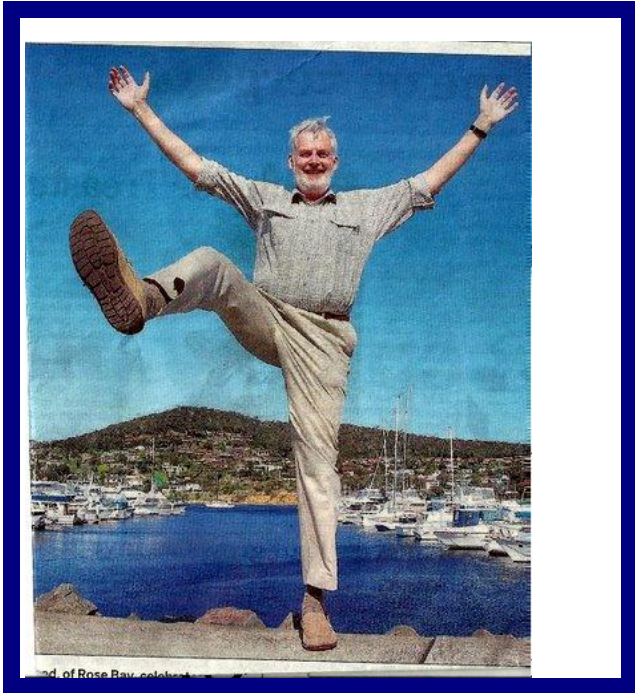
Finally, I look forward to seeing the new fly patterns, the old fly patterns, and the new fly tyers and the old fly tyers at the general meetings.

Dave Hemmings

Contents	
President's Report	1
Story Competition	2
Coming events	3
Club Activities	4
Arthurs Lake Doug Miller	9
Member Profiles:	10
Dave Chote	10
David Young	12
Peter Langdon	14
Ron Ruthven	16
Classifieds	18

Last Suggest a Caption

Noel Wilson won the \$30 last issue There were only 3 entries - better, but still a bit poor.



“Retirement –How great it is”

Tell the best Dave Young Story, or submit the best contribution for the next vice, to win a \$30 voucher from Spot On



There could be a story here
“Have a go now”

Simply send your entry or article or story to
John Smith
< nib1943@iinet.net.au >



The boys at Spot On fishing tackle have kindly provided the Club with 4 vouchers to the value of **\$30** each for this year's **competition**. I'm sure everyone will join with me in thanking the lads for this kind support, and continue to patronise Steve's shop.

The wood shed is full

A **special thanks to Randall Trethewey** the owner of property surrounding Lake Fergus. He kindly allowed Josh Bradshaw and Sven Nielsen to cut the wood for the Peacock Lodge there.

Thanks also to Josh and Sven for filling the shed, a big saving for the club

Editorial

Well I need to say sorry for the delay in publishing Summer Vice which was due out in January. I could look for others to blame but let the truth be known it is all my fault. The longer I am retired I find my limited skills diminishing and dyslexia setting in. I am finding it harder to get around to the Vice particularly when I could be out fishing.

However as we did not really have a summer this year I have decided to give you all a treat. A combined Summer /Autumn edition and hopefully we will get some summer weather in Autumn. So read it slowly and enjoy!

The ‘Guess the Caption’ contest has also been replaced with ‘tell the best Dave Young Story’ or the best story or article for the next edition of vice. Bear in mind possible litigation as the winning entry will only be published subject to legal advice.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to Vice over the last few years. A special thanks to Peter and Pam Murphy for ~~there~~ their tireless proof reading.

Please think about some articles for the next issue. The deadline is 19th July for copy. Something on your winter project, your favourite fly, or some notes on you or a friend as a basis for a profile would be good.

I am really looking forward for the new editor of Vice taking over so I can get a few days fishing in. Tight lines.

JTS

Coming Events

April 18	Monthly Meeting	
May 16	Monthly Meeting Craig Granquist and David Chote tying CDC flys.	John’s birthday. Bring presents.
May 27 – 29	Tiger Hut tying weekend	Lyndon Cubbins
June 20	Monthly Meeting	
July 19	Deadline for Vice articles	John Smith
July 18	Monthly Meeting	
July 23	Annual Dinner	
August 2	Winter Vice published	John Smith
August 5 – 7	Opening Weekend, Miena Shack	Peter Trott

Club Activities Casting Day Bothwell.

A cheerful group of members, their families including partners, children, grand children and their friends met at Barbara Fowler's property near Bothwell for the Club's annual casting contest. It was a great day with fine food and fine company.



Barbara Fowler, as most of you know, is our patron. Her deceased husband John was a member of the club way back in the early years. The Fowlers were the owners of Skittleball Plain and Lake Fergus. Ray Longden had a shack on the Pine appropriately named "Knock a Grog Along" and Ray along, with Ambrose Hayley, B Tipping and Des Innes were keen to get access to Lake Fergus. There started a close relationship over the years. John started fishing in 1960 and the exclusive group had at least one special weekend fishing a year. Over the years the club regularly met at John's place with at least 15 pig roasts over wood fires. Often it involved wine or port bottling from 44 gallon drums into the club labeled bottles.



The casting is for two trophies the Margaret Knight Trophy (dry fly) and the Hedley Griggs Trophy (wet fly).

There was keen competition with David Hemmings winning the dry fly cast by 1 point from Noel Wilson with Bruce Barker in third place by a whisker from the next 5 non place getters.

David Hemming, the state wet fly Champion showed us how in the wet fly event with a near perfect score of 38 out of a possible 40 pressed hard by Noel Wilson, with Peter Murphy third.

Great to see the young involved and members giving a few casting tips.



State Champ showing a future champ

Thanks to Barbara and the family (who are so very keen to have the club back at any time we like) for a great day.

Reporter John Smith Ed



Macquarie River Field Trip – Ross October 2010
Craig Granquist Organiser and Reporter

A small contingent of five members made the annual pilgrimage to Ross this year for the Macquarie river field trip, Dave Chote, Doug Miller, Steve Martin, Mark Rampant, and Craig Granquist.

Friday afternoon was the usual meet and greet after the early arrivals had checked out the river nearby to gauge the expectations for the weekend.

After a few beers, wine, and Dave recounting how his wheels on his boat trailer had been moving from side to side on the trip up, it was decided that Dave and Doug would go to Lake Leake to fish their round of the John Fowler Trophy and I would take Mark and Steve out to Beverly as they had not fished the river from this property.



Craig with the best fish of the trip.

Saturday dawned overcast, calm and humid, which brought the duns up on Lake Leake with Dave and Doug catching six fish between them. Dave was top rod with four. The boat trailer was fixed and they were back in time for tea.



Caught with a Dave Chote CDC midge

The fishing on Beverly was the best that I have seen on the Macquarie since I have been attending the field trips. This doesn't mean that it was a Red-Letter day, but there were a few fish moving and willing enough to take a well-presented fly.

Score for the day was: Craig, three fish, the biggest being in the high fifty to sixty centimetres in length, a very nice Macquarie River Brown Trout. One of the three fish was a Rainbow Trout, which was unexpected.



Craig plays a nice one

Steve landed two fish and one Red Fin (Sorry Steve, I couldn't help but mention this) and dropped two fish as well.

Mark and Steve were also fishing their round of the John Fowler Trophy which leads into Mark's tally for the day.



Steve and a nice brown

Mark landed two fish and dropped two for the day. However, Mark also grassed one more good-sized fish from a difficult lie which both Steve and I had cast to. The fish was in a run that was going past a willow and to get the fly to the fish you had a window of about a metre and a half to land it and get a drag free drift. Mark did everything right and got the fish to take. He quickly played the fish and grassed it whilst still keeping it in some shallow water so it would be healthy for release. At this point Mark decided to get the measuring tape out of his vest, at the same time the fish decided that it still has enough energy and water to make a bid for freedom. Mark looked down to see the fish swimming away but in time to grab his leader, which then parted company with the fly, and the fish made a successful escape, Steve and I found this very amusing and Mark spent five minutes swearing at the piece of broken mono in his hand. Mark is now known as the "Rampant Crow" because of the noise that was echoing through the valley.

In all we landed seven fish and lost five giving us the opportunity of twelve fish for the day on Beverly.

Saturday night was the traditional BBQ with plenty of good food, wine, and conversation. A special mention has to go to "Iron Chef" Doug who displayed his culinary skill in preparing a seafood delight, which put the rest of us with our steak, sausages, onion and salad to shame.

On Sunday Dave, Doug and I went back to Beverly, as the conditions were humid and still. Doug spotted a fish on the first pool and stayed to catch it. Dave and I continued on. While Dave was fishing to a sighted fish I noticed a rise behind us. I caught and landed this fish.

As Dave was fishing to another fish the skies opened up and that was the end of the fishing for the day.

In all everyone had a good weekend with good company and a few fish being caught just to top it off.

Penstock Weekend

Another ripper weekend organised by Mark Aspinall, with tremendous help and hospitality from Malcom Crosse. I believe that everyone caught fish and there were some crackers. Danny Rimmer got one around 500 cm and seemed to catch fish when ever he went out. There was a sensational day with no wind and fog on the water, the type of morning Aspro waits for. The locals in the bottom shack (Aspro and Murray) hit the water early and caught heaps. Fine food great fishing and great fellowship, what more could you ask for? Thanks Mark, thanks Malcom



Right place, wrong year, oh well

Dee Lagoon Field Trip March 12 – 14

With a prediction of ideal weather for Friday, I arrived at the Dee late afternoon on Thursday and found Dave Chote's secluded camp. Lyndon Cubbins and Ian Stokes had arrived shortly before.

All went smoothly, apart from Stokesy and Cubby bickering about who slept on which side of the tent.

Dave's campsite is hidden away on the edge of the lake and features a beautifully constructed dry-stone fireplace.



Dave's boat harbour

With Dave's guidance, we launched our boats beside his dry-stone jetty, complete with embedded tyres, then pitched our tents.



The fireplace and scullery maid Cubbins

He had been there for a week or so before we arrived and had a large stack of firewood ready

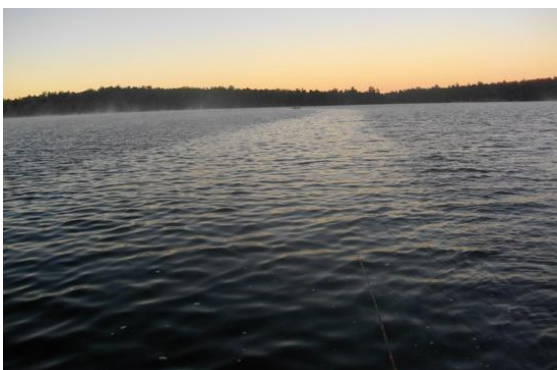
for the weekend. We had a relaxing evening in front of the fire with Dave telling us what to expect in the morning, and giving us all beautifully tied CDC midge flies.

Dave woke us the next morning when the billies had boiled. In the half-light we climbed into our boats and, in an act of faith, followed him at full throttle through the dead trees, on a route known only to Dee regulars. The morning was too calm for wind-lanes to have developed and the few fish which were showing were not feeding in any regular pattern. There were very few insects on the water and after a fruitless couple of hours we returned to camp for breakfast.

Later in the morning we went to the main part of the lagoon and Dave showed us areas where fish could be polaroided. Most fish were caught this way with some very well conditioned ones taken, Cubby and Stokesy accounting for most of them. They were all rainbows, except for one small brown. Cubby's jassid pattern was very successful, and he generously handed these out to others. If you still had an intact one by the end of the weekend you guarded it closely.

John Smith arrived later that day and made a big show of displaying his new bike. We were expecting him to don his lycra tights at any moment, but no one saw him ride it all weekend.

Saturday we followed a similar pattern with a pre-dawn start.



A Dee wind-lane

This time there were wind-lanes, but again no insects, and only a couple of fish were seen. After breakfast Smithy had a good session fishing with Dave, catching a couple and being broken off

once. Doug Miller arrived during the day and had an entertaining time, including in his words, 'some of the best refusals I have ever had'. As I had been unable to land a fish by myself, Dave took me out later and put me onto three in the space of an hour. He knows the lagoon intimately and can find them in any conditions.



Relaxing after a hard day on the water

Saturday evening Dave cooked an excellent meal of leg of lamb spit roasted in front of the fire (in fact he started it early afternoon).



The spit roast

This was accompanied with potatoes and sweet potatoes baked in camp ovens.

Needless to say, the whole lot was washed down with a few bottles of red.



Stokesy with his ears pinned back

After two blank early mornings we decided to sleep in Sunday.

It became very windy later in the day and only a few fish were caught. David Young and Peter

Langton arrived in the afternoon, David still wet from falling into Great Lake while landing a 4lb brown.

Monday was colder and an early start was made, but again there were no insects and no fish were caught.

Thanks Dave for sharing your amazing campsite and your knowledge of the Dee. everyone had a good time and we will all be back to fish this interesting water.

Pete Murphy

Arthurs Lake Experience Doug Miller

I have always loved Arthurs Lake. It was the first lake I really started to get to know in my relatively brief time fly fishing.

It all started in 1995 when I would travel up with my mate Shane and an old Hardy Special which was my favourite rod until it had an unfortunate altercation with a car door. We used to put in at the Pump-house and fish in the trees at Creely Bay and would combine our almost total lack of knowledge to search for any sign of fish. If we managed to get the wind right – blowing along the rocky shores – we would sometimes pick up the odd fish on my rough stick caddis flies, which resembled rather extended mutant nymphs, but they were few and far between

Things started to turn around when I had the good fortune to spend time each year fishing with Mark Hay who owns Allan's Garden Centre at Prospect. Mark has a fantastic shack at the Morass and is hugely knowledgeable, generous and passionate about fishing. He is also blessed with the ability to spot and catch fish in a puddle on the side of the road. We would fish around the islands in the middle of Arthurs, always trying to use the wind to take us where the food was. We would look for wind lanes early and use midges, Loch style was the go later in the morning, possum emergers

were great in the middle of the day and in the evening it was time for the Sunsets.

Mark showed me how to fish a tandem team of a small Sunset Fly which I tie using rabbit fur (<http://www.flylife.com.au/library/ttatf/sunset.html>) and a strange New Zealand fly called a Taihape Tickler. This resembled a Craig's Night-time but with a bit more orange.

(<http://www.goulburnvlyflyfishing.com.au/information/Fly%20Patterns/fly%2038%20taihape%20tickler.htm>) This is the only fly I still will buy as it requires a Pukeko Wing feather on the top and I have no idea where to source these or what to use as a substitute. (*the Pukeko occurs in Tasmania where it is known as the Purple Swamphen – Ed*) The idea was to cast the Sunset and the Tickler out as far as possible and strip it in just below the surface in short gentle movements. The takes would often happen after the first couple of strips which meant there was a lot of line out and lots of fun to be had bringing in the trout. This rig would also often work at first light when there were no wind lanes.

The Cow-paddock in particular has been great this year. I have caught some good fish there and cast unsuccessfully at many others! Steve Martin

introduced me to the delight of wading right up at the end of the Cow-paddock with the last drops of sunshine and shelter from most winds providing lots of opportunity for great hatches and casting in vain at fish a cast and a half away.

I was told that Arthur's trout love black flies with a touch of red and have found that some little black nymphs in size 12-14 with a little red in the tail work well. The Black Dog Murphy has also performed well and is a favourite with 2 turns of bright red hackle at the front. (This is basically a woolly bugger tied from Pete Murphy's black dog's hair – see him – its great!).

The other fly that regularly gets a go on Arthurs with me is Bushies Horror.

(<http://www.goulburnvlyflyfishing.com.au/information/Fly%20Patterns/fly%20%20bushys%20horror.htm>) This seems to swim really well and has a great profile in the water. It also performs better when tied rather roughly, which is an added bonus. This is particularly good around the many drowned trees around the edges and in the middle of the morass.

I love fishing Arthurs and believe that the fish you get from there are the best tasting in Tasmania. There are still many parts I haven't explored – (like the bottom end of the sand lake for one) but then that is just another reason to keep going back.



Steve Martin at the end of the Cow-paddock

Member Profiles

David Chote

Kiwi from the Dee

Compiled by John Smith

David hails from Hawkes Bay on the North Island of New Zealand. Like many of our top fly fishers David started fishing and hunting at an early age on the rivers and also in the sea. David does not remember his first fish but he caught plenty and started fly fishing at an early age, 13-14 on the Tuki Tuki & Maraetotara.



Dave on the Dee

When 23, immediately after getting married, Dave left for Australia and worked as a bricklayer in Cairns, Sunshine Coast and Sydney. He pursued his love of fishing and got to know freshwater fishing in NSW very well. Trout on the other side of the divide in the Duckmaloi & Fish River & impoundments like Lyells Dam. He enjoyed memorable bass fishing in the tributaries of the Hawkesbury River and sees bass as one of our best freshwater sport fish.

Over the years he spent many weekends and holidays in the Snowy Mountains, fly fishing the rivers and lakes for trout. He knows the area well and would be a great source of information for members visiting the area. He also fished other areas of NSW and Victoria and did quite a bit of 4 wheel driving to get to the remote spots. The Victorian High Country streams became a magnet with many enjoyable weekends spent with 7'6" rod, nymphing or dry.

He moved to Tasmania about 5 years ago and works at Risdon Prison as the maintenance coordinator. It was here he met Craig Granquist who nominated him for the club.



Camp Chef at Work

He has fished quite a few areas in Tasmania but his favourite water is The Dee where he can be found most weekends when the Rainbow trout waters are open. He also spends his holidays camped on the Dee. Indeed he has set up several fine camps in initially hard to get areas only to move on when invaded by the hoards. Dave has put a lot of work into developing these sites and has used his skill as a brick layer to build magnificent stone fire places. If you come across a fine fireplace on the Dee or in remote parts of the Snowy Mountains and Victorian High Country there is a fair chance “Dave has been here”.

Dave has got to know the Dee well, knowing which parts to fish at different times and in different conditions. “If you want to catch fish on the Dee you need to think about where the food is”. Exciting midge fishing can be had after a frost, and in wind lanes given an early morning breeze. Most of the locals concentrate on the midge and dry fly fishing. Dave also enjoys the midge fishing and uses his electric motor to travel the lanes. “If you pass one fish don’t go back as there will be another on the way”



Dave’s Been Here

With a hunters eyes, Dave has a passion for a bit of polaroiding, particularly for the large rainbows which cruise the shores. Seeing the silver shape swim towards you is very exciting.



Dave’s Snow Boat

Favourite wet flies are the Tom Jones and, as you would expect for a Kiwi, the hare and copper. His favourite dry is the CDC fly with three strands of pheasant as the tail, a thin thread body and a CDC thorax and upright wing. Dave prefers 16 to 18s and the secret for success is to trim the underside flat, and the rear of the wing to expose the thin thread body. These flies work on the Dee but also on the rivers such as the Macquarie.

David is a bushy and is well organised around the camp with a well thought out rig. His boat has been finished off to his specifications and everything has its place. He pays attention to detail and is meticulous when it comes to fishing. Dave camps at the Dee not only in the fishing season but through winter when he works on his camp site and goes kayaking. He has been adopted by the locals as one of them even though he does not pay rates.

Since joining a few years ago Dave has done his bit for the club. He goes to club events; he uses his camp cooking skills to prepare magnificent roast vegetables in the camp ovens at the Tiger Hut. He has also hosted the Dee Lagoon field trip for the second year in a row and the last one was a roaring success. He also took me out to catch a couple of cracking rainbows.

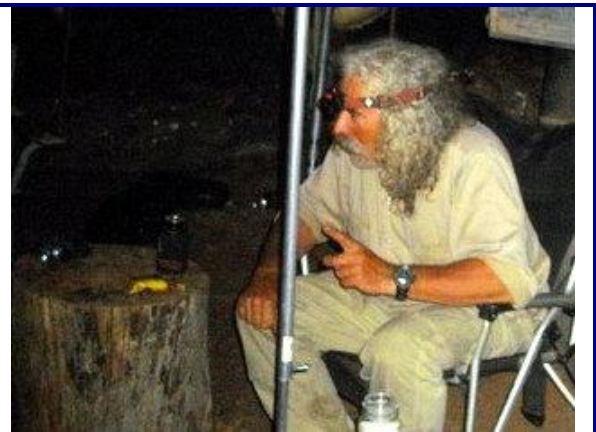
Thanks Dave.



CDC emergers 16 and 18- lovely flies, shocking photo!

If Dave had a really good wish,
It would be about fresh water fish,
Wind lanes on the Dee,
Catching fish you can see,
Then great camp food on his dish.

Dave's a real bushy you'll see
Loves ,camping and; black billy tea,
Large rainbow trout ,taking mates out
He's our Kiwi from the Dee.



David Young Adventurer

Compiled by John Smith

David was born in the UK, one of the war babies who came to Australia in 1969. As you would expect his trip was not direct but an adventure, an overland journey through Europe and Asia. David is an engineer by training, but his career has mainly been in the theatre as a playwright and director in Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and Hobart.

He started coarse fishing in the UK at the age of ten, and started fly fishing while living in Sydney in 1984. He fished in the Turon River between Lithgow and Mudgee while on family weekend trips and caught quite a few trout on the sinking red tag (it was supposed to float, but neither he nor the fish knew that!).

David came to Tasmania in 1985 and started to fish the rivers. He did a fly-tying course with David O'Brien in 1987 but did not start serious tying until he joined the club in August 2003.

David fished with Tony Abel, who got him interested in fly tying and nominated him for the club.

David's favourite fly is the Trothodge. His preference is to use the dry fly but finds the Pedder Parrot a good wet fly early in the season. He has also been known to use a Chernobyl Ant with a dropper or another dry fly with some success. David really values his favourite flies and will go to great lengths to retrieve one when caught in a tree. Stories abound about David's climbing ability, broken branches and the occasional swim.



Oh no! Not again.

He is a frequent fisher and can be traced to a lake somewhere on most weekends during the season, and is often to be found at the Miena shack. He enjoys the Western Lakes and the walking to get to remote ones. He has led Club trips to the Western Lakes, and has also been known to go out to there on his own, which causes his loving daughter some concern, so much so that on one occasion she called in the “chopper” to taxi David out. David also enjoys fishing from his Savage Jabaru boat. On occasions he uses his 11-foot loch-style rod with three flies quite successfully.



Eloquent Fish handling

David is an adventurous fisher, keen to try different places. He has visited Patagonia alone on two extensive trips, and presented excellent talks at our meetings about them. He caught good fish

and intends to continue these overseas excursions; this Tasmanian winter he is going to visit Spain to sample the fishing there.



Adventure in South America

As with most adventurers who have a go, there is the occasional misadventure and you may recall the series of rod breakages David talked about during his South American presentation.

I have fished with David on a few occasions and he is good company and catches his share of fish of quality, some taking him out to the backing. On one occasion he bagged a deer coming out of Penstock, his largest catch to date. He has a keen sense of humour and earned the nick name “Spike” on a club trip to Lake Halkyard.



Enjoyable Rainbow

David is a good club man and served as secretary for 3 years. He was also secretary of Anglers Alliance Tasmania. A historian and the author of a number of books, Dr Young is a man of many talents. There are club members who have a story about Dave and I was thinking of capturing these in a comic strip. However, with my lack of artistic skills, and Dave’s frequent threats of litigation I have dropped the idea.

Would you like to be Young for a day,
Fishing Patagonia or Spain far away
Fish to be had with our adventurous lad,
But there's also a risk so they say!

You would be excused for wondering why,
So much effort to get a snagged fly
Up trees in a wink, often ends in the drink
Dave values his wet and his dry.



Spike?

Peter Langton Philosopher.

Compiled by John Smith

Born in a small English village on the Thames Peter Langton's early experience was coarse fishing for tench and carp in the Thames and for pike in the numerous quarries around home.

Under close interrogation Peter also confessed to poaching with a bush pole in the Vickers Ponds.

He arrived in Australia in 1968 after travelling through Asia, and then travelled around Australia for a year or two on a working holiday. He left again to travel and teach in Japan and India. With his well recognised potential for brilliance "Plangers" came to Tasmania in the mid 70's Tony Abel worked with Peter and Ian Stokes in social welfare areas and claims the credit for introducing him to the noble art of fly fishing. They often went fishing together.

Tony Abel described "Plangers" as one of the few members of the human race who catches fish while asleep on a regular basis. This resting quality has been referred to by others who recall memorable moments, involving uncanny fish catching, or just being difficult to track and find when it is time to go home, "he drifts off and sleeps in the bush."



At rest with West

He was nominated for the club by Tony Abel in the late 80s and since then he has achieved legend status.

Peter claims he is not so keen on tying flies and only ties 8 to 10 a year. He went to Macca's fly tying nights but "mainly for the social contact and the red wine", together with learning from the knowledge and skills of others. He describes himself as an occasional trout fisher who enjoys the social aspects with fish as a bonus.



“What’s this?”

Peter has enjoyed numerous memorable fishing events the most recent being a red letter day on

I was told it would be hard to give a true picture of Mr Plankton in a profile. When I first joined the club I found Peter to be welcoming friendly and non-threatening and I got to know him a bit on a Burbury trip. I have enjoyed fishing with him and I think he is quite modest about his fishing ability. I have noticed he seems to catch fish with monotonous regularity. Stokesy told of a day when he and Cubby were painting the shack when ‘Plangers’ showed up and offered to help, so they sent him off to the Pine fishing. He returned within the hour with his bag of fish much to the surprise of the painters.

Peter has amazing talents, still playing soccer and A grade tennis. He is lean and fit. A story worth

Bronte where early season tailing fish took the dry fly readily.

The western lakes are a favourite and walking is one of Peter’s strong points. He has fished many waters such as Lake St Clair, Bronte, Lake Sorell and the Lagoon of Islands with success. He enjoys the early morning fishing in the western lakes and often camps up there to fish the morning rise.

He only uses a few flies; Hamill’s Killer as a wet for frog feeders, the red tag as an all round dry, or emerger and Stokesy’s nymphs particularly when the mayflies are about.

repeating comes from the club trip to Welcome Inlet on the South West Coast a few years ago. On the walk back to Cockle Creek, not for the faint hearted, Pete tired a little trying to keep up with much younger members like the galloping Trott so they **left him to rest for the night!** Well Pete arose the next morning and duly arrived at Cockle Creek in company of the young flyers.

There is a serious caring side to Peter who clearly cares about his fellow man and who puts a lot of thought into his fishing.

I have enjoyed Peter’s company and there’s never a dull moment.

Plankton makes most anglers weep,
With his most unusual technique,
His fly, red or black, is cast, then a nap,
He catches his fish while asleep!

Ties flies and they work for him,
Uses skill and thought, not “tin”,
Often seen out west, catching fish with the best,
Then a drink with his mates, that’s his thing.



Ron Ruthven Legend

Compiled by John Smith

Ron is a true blue Tasmanian having been born in Hobart in 1922. He is one of our most senior members with a wealth of fishing experience. He started fishing at an early age catching his first fish in the New Town Rivulet when he was only 11 years old. He proudly recalled catching 15 trout in a day on worms, the first time he took his daily bag limit (plus a bit).

He joined the Fly Tyers' Club and started fly fishing when the club was first formed in 1956 Ray Longden introduced Ron to fly fishing and nominated him to the club Ray Longden also taught Ron to tie flies. His first fish on the fly was caught on his first fly fishing trip in Penstock while fishing with Ray and Graham House and Paul Heather..

Ron's favourite fly is the postman's knock the subject of an earlier vice article written by Ron. The fly is named after the "postman" who used drive from Launceston to Penstock and always caught his bag using the postman's knock, a red spinner imitation. The Postman gave one to Ron who still uses them as his 'go to' dry fly.

He recalls a memorable trip to Laughing Jack to meet a friend who did not show up so Ron went to Clarence weir to wait and have a sleep. He awoke and noticed feeding fish on the other side of the weir so he crossed to the other side despite the rising water level.



Ron Lines one up

On with the postman's knock which successfully accounted for 15 fish, (his first bag on the fly), before crossing back to beat the rising water level.

Ron recalled another occasion on Little Pine when he had a strict time limit of 12 noon when he was committed to returning to his wife. Bill Beck was fishing there too, and it was one of those rare magic days on the Pine. Ron caught 5 nice browns before noticing the time 12.30 and rushing back to the fly tyers shack. At the next meeting Bill told Ron he should have stayed at the pine and he would have bagged out. Ron replied "I was bagged out well and truly anyway". Ron's largest fish was 5.5 lb brown caught in Lake Pedder.

Ron was a foundation member of the Mt Wellington Ski Club and came third in the salmon championships in 1954. He was the first member and President of the Clarence Anglers club. He has a background in community and public service and has contributed to the development of health services in Tasmania. He was a foundation member of St Johns Ambulance in 1933/34 becoming a commissioned officer when only 16. He also held executive positions on the "friendly society" organisations which were the precursors to formal health funds like St Lukes.



A Delicate Cast.

Ron is a regular visitor to the Miena shack for a chat, as his shack that he built in 1982, is almost next door to the Peacock Lodge. I interviewed Ron on the water at Arthurs Lake while we fished in separate boats. Ron has done a lot for the fly tying club. He has been on our committee on a number of occasions and was Treasurer for a few years. With his accounting qualifications and training in constitutional law he did a meticulous job He was also instrumental in rewriting the

club's constitution. I think it would be fair to say that Ron is still keeping the committee on its toes at our regular monthly meetings.

Ron is amazing and a model for us all. As tough as teak at the tender age of 88 he still launches his own boat and goes out alone sometimes in windy conditions that would put many off. If I reach 88 I would like to be as active as Ron

Ron has been around for a while
He's developed his very own style
As tough as teak, and he's still at his peak
Still putting fish to the trial.

Ron, he's as sharp as a tack,
With a memory that goes way, way back,
Experience to burn, from which you can learn,
And he keeps the committee on track!



Editions 1 of fly life for Heather Noga to make Mothers set complete
Contact Heather on
(03) 6225 2198

Articles, stories, feed back, letters to the editor profiles, anything of interest to members for vice Contact John Smith nib1943@iinet.net.au.

MEMBERS INTERESTED IN NZ TRIP
Contact John Smith nib1943@iinet.net.au

For payments to the club

BSB: 807 007
Account No: 12130456
Name: Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club Inc
Put name in reference box
Then email the details to Tim Munro
tim@theatreroyal.com.au

If paying from Mystate account
Treat as another Organisation.

On the way from Bellerive to Rosny I was surprised to see a blow up doll in the middle of the road. As I was on my way to the shack I was tempted to pick up the doll and put it in the top bunk, but I thought there might be strings attached.

FOR SALE

Sold!

Community Notice

Great Fishing gear

1 only- **Sage VT2 fly rod** 9 ft, 4 pce, 8 weight, new \$250

2 only **Sage Fly reels** model 1850 , little use \$ 60 each.

Contact Ross Scrim
PH (03) 6267 4332
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Email rossscrim@bigpond.com

. Fly fishing Boat

Stessel Edge Tracker 3.75 m dingy with 18 HP TOHATSU Motor
Excellent Trailer. Electric Outboard with dual cycle battery charged by motor \$4,000.

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Vice President John Smith
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Secretary Peter Murphy
Ph (03) 6243 0288

Treasurer Tim Munro

Committee Members

- Malcolme Cross
- John Spencer
- John Smith
- Peter Trott shack man

Please contact with any suggestions