



The Vice



Newsletter of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

Volume13 , Issue 3 Spring 2016

Inside: Modifying a Small Boat, Life Memberships, Committee Q&A *and much more...*

Cover shot – Jim Jones targets a Bronte Brown

President's Report

Well, my first President's Report ...

I guess that, with barely three, late winter months having elapsed since John Smith's last Report, there have been relatively few club activities. However, a look at Smithy's final President's Report quickly reveals what a huge amount was achieved under his leadership. So I want to begin by offering John our sincere thanks for all the great work that he and his committees put in, and the great shape in which he left the club when he took well-deserved retirement after his three years in office.

My main feelings as the new president are that the club is running really well, with terrific participation at meetings and club activities, and that this momentum needs to be maintained. At a personal level this is a somewhat daunting challenge, until I remind myself of the many people who are contributing hugely to the ongoing success of the club.

In recent weeks the club, with particular input from Anna Bellette and Steve Butler, has been involved in the Miena Tie-in, and a few hardy souls, including Craig Granquist and Dave Lipscombe, will have spent a challenging weekend (at least weather-wise) at the Miena shack (As I write this report I am looking out at a snowy Mount Wellington and windswept Derwent, and thinking "Rather them than me...").

All members will be aware of the Activities Program that has been put together by several members under Ian Stokes' co-ordination. I think the program looks terrific and I urge you all to attend as many of these activities as you can. Each has a coordinator, so let him/her know of your interest, in order to assist them with planning.

This year's Fowler Trophy entry is probably the largest so far – many thanks Andrew Reed! This is a wonderful activity for creating new friendships within the club, so make contact with your other half and get fishing!

Due to the invaluable, quiet, behind the scenes work of Brian McCullagh, with support from Malcolm Crosse and Tony Dell, both shacks are in excellent shape ready for the coming season. This should be a great summer and the shacks are there to be used! Incidentally, it was encouraging to hear recent reports that Inland Fisheries are, once again, optimistic about finally ridding Lake Sorell of carp.

While preparing this report I accessed previous reports for ideas, and was, yet again, reminded of two fantastic resources, which the club provides. "The Vice" provides not only a newsletter of relevance to the club, but is also a great reference for keen fisherpeople, so sincere thanks for the fantastic job you are doing as editor, Doug!

The other great resource we have is the website which is kept up to date by Tim Lewis and provides all sorts of current and historical info in a really accessible way. Many thanks, Tim, and also for having everything at your fingertips to help a new president look as though he has things under some sort of control!

So for now, tight lines and happy fishing for the coming season!

Andrew Hood

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Editorial

After spending the best part of the winter traveling the eastern seaboard of New South Wales and enjoying average temperatures of around 25 degrees I finally got a chance to wet a line. There was a memorable trip that took in Woods, Little Pine and Penstock with our beloved (?) Treasurer, where we managed to get into some nice fish. This was quickly followed up by three trips for nothing. It reminded me of that Kipling poem that went something like – ‘If you can not catch fish whilst all around you are hauling them in ... you are a dill’.

I am currently looking forward to some of the upcoming events organised in the weeks before Christmas and hope to get out on the water once the ordinary weather permits and the fish start ‘looking up’!

I must take a moment to pay tribute to our immediate past president John Smith. John did a great job and was particularly supportive of my efforts with The Vice. I know that one of his main aims as President was to relinquish the position to someone else as soon as possible but I really appreciated the great job he did over a much longer time span than he anticipated.

Congratulations to Andrew Hood too as the new President. I am sure he will do a great job long with the new and enthusiastic committee. You can read about them in this issue with a quick set of profile questions. Those not featured yet will hopefully appear in the Summer Vice.

Also in this issue there is a great article by Pete Murphy on the way he has transformed his old ‘tippy’ dinghy into a stable fly-fishing platform which, long with a new motor has made his fishing opportunities safer and much more enjoyable. Make sure to scroll through to the end of The Vice to check out the For Sale items that he has listed. (Anyone else wanting to sell things can have them listed by just sending me an Email)

There is an article about our newest Life Member. Laurie has had an ‘*annus horribilis*’ but is finally getting back on track.

Thanks to Zuie Howard for taking lots of shots at the Annual Dinner. Some of these are included along with a link to see a few more.

Finally, I couldn’t help but notice that pretty well every fishing spot in New South Wales had a simple container – often just a PVC pipe on a post – for people to dump their used fishing line in. After tripping over about 40 metres of braided line whilst wading the edges of Bronte with Jim Jones and David Travalia I couldn’t help think that this would be a simple and relatively cheap way of encouraging anglers to take their off-cuts of line with them safe in

the knowledge that there was a suitable receptacle to dispose of their waist line!



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. Vouchers can be picked up from the Editor at your leisure!

So...Write the best story and win a \$30 Spot On voucher!

This time the award goes to... Pete Murphy for his article on making his boat safer. (I should fine him for being one of those who fished successfully next to me three times on Penstock while I got nothing!)

Have a go
Simply send your entry to Doug Miller
55dmiller@gmail.com

Modifying a Small Boat

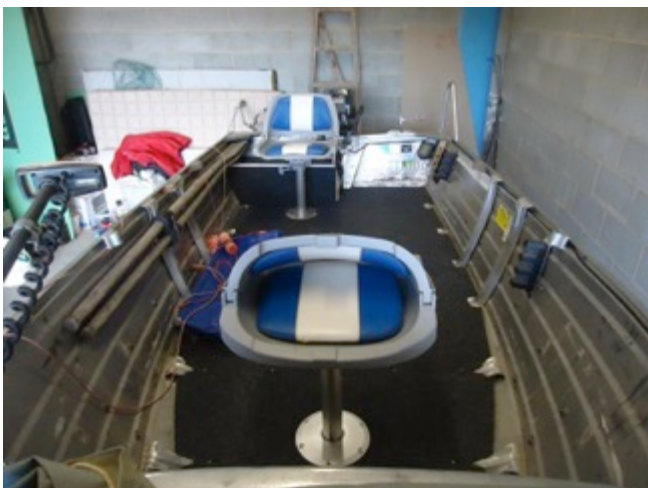
I have limited storage space for my boat – it has to share the garage with a car, so upgrading to a larger boat is not really an option.

The boat is a 3.9 metre Quintrex Dart, 11 years old. There were a few problems with it when used for fly-fishing.

Firstly, the seats restricted movement and took up a lot of space. I decided it would be better to remove them and install a level floor. The seats were replaced with two removable swiveling pedestal ones. An extra pedestal base was installed in the centre of the floor for use when fishing alone.



Removing the original bench seats also removed the rigidity of the boat. I took it to Maas Welding and had floor supports welded in, then a plywood floor was installed by drilling and tapping screws into the floor supports. The diagonal bracing provided by the floor restored the rigidity. Some flotation was also placed under the floor in the aft half of the boat and an anchor locker created. Carpet was glued to the floor.



I also had Maas fit a step with a fold down section to the stern. This makes it easier to get in and out of the

boat, and should also assist if someone falls overboard.

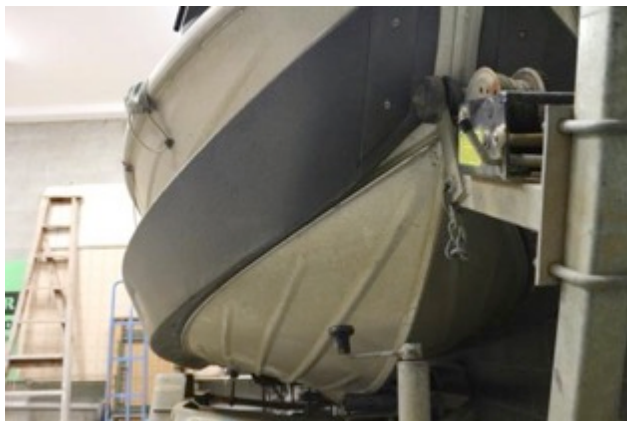


The second problem with the boat was its stability. With two people standing and fishing a sudden movement by one was enough to cause the other to lose balance. Moving around in the boat caused it to rock, and it was not possible for both fishers to be on the same side of the boat without risking a swamping.



The solution to this was to fit a Kaptan Boat Collar (<http://www.kaptenboatcollar.com/>). This consists of two strips of closed cell foam 150mm wide and 240mm deep. The collar is attached above the chine by screwing through the hull into aluminium plates

inserted in the foam. The collar also more than replaces the flotation contained in the original seats.



The effect of the collar has been quite marked. The boat is now very stable, moving around in it is easier, there is very little rocking when casting, and two people can safely stand on one side. The boat floats higher in the water, it will plane at a lower speed, and the ride is smoother and drier thanks to the extended chine created by the collar.



The 2-stroke 20hp Yamaha has been replaced with a 4-stroke 20hp Honda with electric start and power tilt.

The cost of the modifications (excluding the new motor) was just under \$2000.

Pete Murphy

Ad-Vice Tips and Tricks

Gadgets, gear and good ideas are always close to the surface whenever fly tyers get together. This section of The Vice features recommendations, quick reviews and tips to make the fishing experience even richer. Please feel free to send in any tips you might like to share.

This following piece has been taken from a website called 'In the Riffle' and is useful when you are trying to decide which size of bead is right for the hook size.

The web address is <http://intheriffle.com/the-riffle/how-to-choose-right-fly-tying-bead/>

Fly Tying Bead Sizing

Fly Tying Beads are sized either in Millimeters or Inches. The right sized bead makes the fly perfectly proportional and easily fits around the bend of the hook. Below is a guide to choosing the right bead size. This guide is a general guide. Bead size can vary depending on the style of hook. Some curved hooks are more difficult to get a bead around the bend. You have to sometimes de-barb the hook in order for the bead to clear the bend. Fly Tying Beads fit a range of hooks. If you are not really sure of the style of hook and the bead, choose the bead that has the hook size right in the middle of the range. For example for a size 18 hook, a 5/64" bead has a range from 16, 18 or 20. #18 is right in the middle and a 5/64" bead is perfect for all size 18 hooks.



All Metal Beads have two different sized holes in the bead. The smaller hole is made to go against the eye of the hook. The larger hole faces backwards and [lead wire](#) can be wrapped around the hook and slid into this space. The larger space on the back of the bead aids in sliding the bead around the shank of the hook and makes it easier to put on. This is called counter sinking.

Fly Tying Bead Head Sizing Chart

1/16" or 1.5MM – Hook Sizes 20-24
5/64" or 2.0MM – Hook Sizes 16-20
3/32" or 2.4MM – Hook Sizes 14-18
7/64" or 2.8MM – Hook Sizes 12-16
1/8" or 3.2MM – Hook Sizes 10-14
5/32" or 4.0MM – Hook Sizes 8-12
3/16" or 4.5MM – Hook Sizes 6-10
1/4" or 5MM – Hook Sizes 4-8

New Life Member - Laurie Matcham

I missed the Annual Dinner and wasn't there to see him get this award but was absolutely thrilled when I heard about it. I know the effort Laurie put in to preparing the room with centerpieces for the tables and amazing dragon fly brooches for the women to choose from. Making the centrepieces alone took over 8 full days of solid work. From the initial concept drawings until final completion at midnight before the dinner he had certainly put in the hard yards. I thought it was appropriate for other members to hear just a little of the Matcham story...



The last year has been pretty ordinary for club stalwart and fly tyer Laurie Matcham. An industrial accident in November 2015 left him with a broken pelvis on both sides and lower back fractures, which put him out of action for the best part of a long and frustrating year of inactivity. Anyone who knows Laurie would know how hard that must have been for him as he thrives on being active and creative. At the time of writing Laurie has just had keyhole surgery to remove floating bone fragments in his hip and is finally starting to turn the corner. Once this surgery was proposed he started to feel like his run of bad luck was about to change. Becoming the Club's newest Life Member was definitely a light at the end of the tunnel.

Laurie joined the Fly Tyers in 1974 after years of trying and thinks he was nominated by Eric Canning and seconded by John O'Halloran who he met during Doug Bridges' Adult Education Fly Casting course at Cornelian Bay. Laurie helped with the fly casting course and used to work part time at Bridges in the 60s tying flies and working behind the counter.



He remembers a woman coming in with a box of old gear that her late husband owned and she was desperate to sell it to Doug Bridges. The box had some weevils on the corner and Doug, fearing for all his capes and hackles, wanted it out of the shop pronto! The woman was distraught and Laurie, feeling sorry for her, offered to buy the box of gear himself. The woman was pleased and happily sold it to him - He then forgot about it for about 20 years.

When he finally got around to checking it out he found that in the box was 5 Wheatley fly boxes, some Hardy gut casts and 2 reels. One of the reels turned out to be a Hardy Bronze Perfect made in 1864 in absolutely mint condition and featured on the front of Fly Life (Spring Edition #75 I think) A Hardy representative asked to see the reels and was blown away with the collection he had amassed over the years of guiding and tying all around the world. The workmanship of these reels is quite remarkable from the cleverness of the design to the iconic drag and ratchet system made to mimic frogs croaking so it didn't interfere with the sounds of the river!!

Laurie was a self-taught fly tyer who met Les Roberts (his ex-father in law) and Bev Stewart from Bridges. Bev used to tie all the flies but would only tie his own patterns - Laurie used to do the more exotic ones that customers brought in to get copied. He then went on to tie for Mustad from 1989 after the World Championships in Tasmania where members of the Norwegian team took a video of Laurie tying flies on the bumper of a Volvo at Little Pine. As a result of this

he was offered a worldwide promotional job with Mustad along with Toril Kolbu and Taff Price to travel the world demonstrating fly tying and fishing in competition for 7 amazing years where he achieved a World Ranking of 27 – certainly a dream job for such a dedicated fly fisher!



Laurie with John Denver!

On his return Laurie worked at London Lakes with Jason Garrett as head guide and a qualified instructor for 20 years all the while continuing with his day job as a paramedic with the Ambulances.



Laurie has hosted at least 14 Fly Tyers dinners at his various homes – 5 at Diamond Drive Blackmans Bay, 3 dinners and 4 Christmas drinks at Alwyn Rd, and also

organised 2 at RACT and helped with decorating 2 at Woodstock. These were always decorated with incredible artistic flair!

So after a horror stretch health wise Laurie has started to emerge from the depths and is about to surface again as our newest Life Member!

Fly Tying on the WWW

The World Wide Web is a treasure trove of information and tips for the fly tyer. YouTube in particular reveals a staggering number of responses to the most basic search. In this new trial section of The Vice the focus will be on some interesting tyers and techniques. If you have any favourites that you think should be shared with our members please send them in.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4vFN2VDcFw>

Anyone wanting to fish at Tooms Lake will know about the galaxia that inhabit this wonderful piece of the world. I was fortunate enough to hook one at the end of last season and took a photo of it with my phone along with the bedraggled fly that caught it. (I also did manage to catch 2 really nice trout as well)



Native Fish: Common Galaxias or Jollytail (*Galaxias maculatus*).

This YouTube clip of the Common Galaxias or Jollytail (*Galaxias maculatus*) is an interesting thing for fly tying as it shows the various trigger points and the colours that we might include in our own creations.

I know that fur flies and green machines work well on Tooms but I am always trying to find that little extra edge. So I have worked on having a lighter coloured



belly and some red around the gill area as trigger points. Let me know if you have a fly or a modification to a standard pattern that you are willing to share.

The Committee Q and A

The new Committee has taken over and I thought it might be good over the next two editions of The Vice, to get them to respond to a basic set of questions, which they could respond to with as much or as little detail as they wished...

Ian Stokes



What are your responsibilities on the committee?
Developing and monitoring the annual activities calendar

Which Club events do you really look forward to?
The fly tying at the Tiger Hut and field weekends at Miena

What are your favourite fishing destinations?
Lake Augusta and Woods Lake (which for me didn't fish well last year)

What is your 'go to' fly and when do you use it?
Possum emerger which I use before and at the beginning of a dun hatch. I also prospect with it at Lake Augusta

Your first fish on a fly ...
When I was 14/15 fishing with my father and Don Hammond at Arthurs Lake. I reckon it was just legal size. (they caught a number of good fish over 2 lbs)

Your last fish on a fly was ...
A 2.5 pound rainbow which I foul hooked in Penstock Lagoon

It would be great if the Club could...

I think the club is going really well but would like to see us become more involved in the ongoing sustainability of the fishery

Anna Bellette



What are your responsibilities on the committee?
My responsibilities are to organise the guest speakers for the monthly meetings.
And help organise the Annual dinner.

Which Club events do you really look forward to?
I look forward to all the Tas Fly Tyers events, I get to learn more about everything fly fishing and get to know the members.

What are your favourite fishing destinations?
I would have to say my favorite fishing destination would have to be NZ and I think it is because I can fish for 3 to 4 weeks without any interruptions like going to work or staying home and doing housework.

What is your 'go to' fly and when do you use it?
Hares ear nymph. I use it with an indicator on the Tyenna.

Your first fish on a fly ...
My first fish on a fly was on the Macquarie River.

Your last fish on a fly was...
My last fish on a fly was on the Tyenna

It would be great if the Club could...
Its actually pretty good the way it is...



Andrew Blackwood



What are your responsibilities on the committee?

I am the Treasurer so obviously I manage the club bank accounts – ensuring bills are paid and revenue collected. Most of it is done on line and with spreadsheets so it doesn't take up all that much time. It is also handy having a very efficient secretary. I can commend the job to anyone looking for a role on the committee!

Which Club events do you really look forward to?

The yearly audit... not really. I enjoy bushwalking as well as fishing so the club trip in early February is a highlight. The destination for this season's trip has not been decided so let me know if you are keen on going anywhere in particular. Next year's trip will definitely not be following any of David Young's so called "short cuts". I am also looking forward to another significant "find" this year after stumbling upon a fanny pack full of flies last year and a very nice knife (that was unfortunately dropped by Mark Rampant) the year before.

What are your favourite fishing destinations?

I will go wherever anyone suggests they are biting. Penstock takes some beating on a "dun" day and I do like Lake Halkyard.

What is your 'go to' fly and when do you use it?

A Shrek early in the season and Royal Wulff on the Western Lakes.

Your first fish on a fly ...

I started fishing Big Lagoon, near my shack on Bruny Island. I was actually just learning to cast with a white streamer when a very dumb fish grabbed it. That was on my second try. Pete Murphy taught me to cast and helped me get started.

Your last fish on a fly was...

A most enjoyable day with 7 fish on Little Pine and Penstock later in the day. Just flogging a Humungous

and Mama Mia. I no doubt would have caught more fish on Little Pine if my companion had prepared the night before and had been ready for an early start! (that was me - DM)

It would be great if the Club could...

Form some sort of partnership with Henry Edgell whereby we help stock his dams and provide working bee's in return for two or three field days each season. I think easy access for some of our older members is becoming more important.

Andrew Hood



What are your responsibilities on the committee?

I have just taken over as President after having served as VP under the great leadership of John Smith.

Which Club events do you really look forward to?

I really enjoy the Penstock and Liaweenie Tying weekends and last year enjoyed what looks like becoming a regular Fergus trip.

What are your favourite fishing destinations?

In Tasmania I enjoy the regular highland lakes - Arthurs, Woods, Penstock, Little Pine and Nineteen Lagoons in no particular order.

Apart from Tasmania, I love the Snowy Mountains around Lake Tantangara where I spent a lot of time and learnt much of my fishing through the 1970s and 80s. In more recent years I have been to the deep south of New Zealand, which is where I do most of my river fishing now. I have also been fortunate to fish for steelhead in the North Umpqua, Oregon - mostly unsuccessfully, but it is the prettiest river I have come across.

What is your 'go to' fly and when do you use it?

When the mayflies are on in Tasmania a scruffy possum merger is my "go to". In NZ it is #14-16 no

hackle pale emerger/dun on which I once caught 15 fish within 20 metres on the Mataura. Also a parachute Adams is pretty useful there, too.

Your first fish on a fly ...

- A 12" rainbow in a pool in the Upper Murrumbidgee between Kiandra and Adaminaby. It was on my first trip to that area on Anzac weekend 1972 and it had snowed most of the time, allowing me to develop my first appreciation of whisky, but on the last day things fined up just before we had to leave and I got him on a Greenwell's Glory.

Your last fish on a fly was...

- A 1 Kg brown in Lake Fergus last year. I saw a tiny rise right against the reeds and was able to wade, with considerable trepidation in the deep mud, to within range. For once everything went according to plan: another tiny rise, this time to a possum!

It would be great if the Club could...

I am already mightily impressed with our club - participation in meetings and activities, the camaraderie, age-spread, knowledge-sharing and general enthusiasm are all fantastic! We must do all we can to maintain what we have, but, while I am President I will be very receptive to any ideas for further improvements and do all I can to implement them. Otherwise, it will be terrific when we can reinstate activities at Sorell!

Tim Lewis



What are your responsibilities on the committee?
Secretary and website maintenance

Which Club events do you really look forward to?
Annual Dinner. It is also good to see the 56 entrants in this season's Fowler Trophy

What are your favourite fishing destinations?
Fergus, Woods, Penstock, Great Lake

What is your 'go to' fly and when do you use it?
Green beetle when sharking

Your first fish on a fly ...
Brown nymph in the Lily Ponds at Arthurs under the guidance of Neil Grose in 2007

Your last fish on a fly was...
Can't remember, but probably a green wooly bugger.

It would be great if the Club could...
Encourage more young members, the young members on the committee this year are terrific workers and very keen to see the Club prosper

Fly Tyers' Dinner – Cascade Gardens

I missed the Annual Dinner but heard some good reports about it! Thanks to Eric (Zuie) Howard for taking these shots on the night! For more shots go to <https://goo.gl/photos/h9zWEyVnUeHKSRas8>

DM



Index of Vice Articles

I have compiled a list of contents from previous editions of the Vice as some members have asked about various stories and the like. All these can be accessed directly from the club website under the link to The Vice. I will include it in all future editions and add to it where possible.

<http://tasmanianflytyersclub.org>

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For Sale

Lever action ratchet drive jockey wheel.

Designed for maneuvering a boat trailer, or caravan, into a tight spot.

As-new condition.

Cost \$190, or make me an offer.

Peter Murphy

0439 424 568



Yamaha outboard

20 hp 2 stroke, 2000 model.

Good condition.

Fuel tank and spare prop included.

\$1100 or near offer.

Peter Murphy

0439 424 568



Ford Ranger XLT PX

2014 model, automatic 5 speed, 3.2 litre diesel.

Excellent condition, 28000 km



Extras include :

- snorkel,
- window tinting,
- rust inhibiting treatment.

Western Australian registration, part of deceased estate.

\$47000 or near offer.

Peter Murphy

0439 424 568

For payments to the club

BSB: 807 007

Account No: 12130456

Name: Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club Inc

Then email the details to

Andrew Blackwood: andrew.blackwood1@bigpond.com

Please remember to clearly identify yourself for ease of recording your payment

Club Website



Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc

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



<http://tasmanianflytyersclub.org>

Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Activities
Program 2016 - 2017

September	19	Monthly Meeting	
October	15	Great Lake Tie-in	Malcolm Crosse, Steve Butler, Anna Bellette
	17	Monthly Meeting	
	21-23	Field weekend based at Miena shack	Craig Granquist
	21	Deadline for Vice Articles	Doug Miller
		Spring Vice Published	Doug Miller
November	18-20	Farm dams near Bothwell. Accommodation available in shearer's quarters at Dennistoun	Ian Stokes , Henry Edgell
	21	Monthly Meeting	
December	1-4	Talbots Lagoon trip	Chris Medwin
		Field trip based at Miena	Noel Wilson
	19	Christmas Drinks - Lenah Valley RSL	
January	13-15	Shack weekend (Sharking, Western Lakes, Arthurs, Woods, Shack BBQ)	Ian Stokes
	16	Monthly Meeting Miena	Committee
	20	Deadline for Vice articles	
February	1st week	Western Lakes walking trip. Dates weather dependent	Andrew Black- wood
		Summer Vice Published	Doug Miller
	17-19	Penstock weekend	Mark Aspinall
	20	Monthly Meeting	