



The Vice

Newsletter of Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc

Volume 10, Issue 1

Winter Vice August 2012



President's Report

Well it's hard to believe that the opening of the new season is just around the corner. I am usually able to tie some flies over the winter but this year I haven't tied even one! My vice seems to look at me as I walk past it, full of guilt. At this rate I'll have to re-sit the Fly tyers entrance exam.

I really enjoy the fly tying evenings at the club. I know I'm not alone in this. The Tiger Hut weekend was booked to overflowing this year - Those beautiful boxes of Delly's and Dave Chote's! The interesting shapes and colours of wise Tasmanian tyers like Cubby, Stoksey and Noel Wilson. Laurie Matcham's well-designed and beautifully tied patterns. Westy's beautifully proportioned patterns. There's plenty to inspire in the club.

I reckon that there are also so many more boxes that I haven't seen. Favourite patterns, interesting materials and of course the 'never fails me' flies.

I'd really like each member to present their boxes of flies, at future meetings, Even just a favourite fly would be good. As a Fly tying club we need to share the incredible depth of knowledge at our disposal. I'll be suggesting that we incorporate this into each meeting.

This will be my final president's report. A change in committee members is healthy for a club and indeed essential. It has been terrific to develop deeper friendships with other members. I would encourage those that haven't helped out on the

committee to do so, if not this year, then the year after. It is good to feel that you have done your little bit for the club but good also to appreciate the quiet work that goes on in the background.

The Fly Tyers are a terrific little club. A club with some tradition and packed with very some very talented members. I'd like to thank all of the committee members and the club members too for their considerable support during my tenure. I've had plenty of good times and laughs and will continue to do so. I'll also continue to be an active member in the club.

So, I wish you all, tight loops, accurate casting and the best fishing season ever.

David
Aug 2012

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Coming Events	
Opening weekend – Miena Shack - August 3-5	
Annual General Meeting & Dinner – August 20	

Editorial

This is my first effort at producing the Vice without the wisdom and immense input of JTS who is bound for foreign climes, so I hope everyone will cut me some slack.

It was great to get Noel Wilson to write up his presentation from one of our monthly meetings where he outlined the flies he uses on the Pine, Arthurs and Woods. I am looking forward to tying and testing these flies out as soon as the season starts again.

The Casting Day at Plenty and the Snowy Ranges trip were all wonderful days and I would encourage all members and friends of members to attend them.

I have included two small sections about fly tying on the internet and *Useful Tips* from members. It would be great if these sections could grow as they are easy for anyone to add to without feeling they have to write a full-blown article. So if you have a tip that you would like to share or have bought some new essential piece of gear that makes life so much more wonderful please send it in.

On a final note, please do your best to attend the AGM at the Lenah Valley RSL on August 20. They have really looked after us and always provide a great meal – so let's make it a great start to the new season and support this fantastic club!

Doug

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

**Have a go
Simply send your entry to Doug Miller
douglas.miler@education.tas.gov.au**

Best Fly? Or Send in a Story



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.

This time the prize goes to Noel Wilson for his generosity and wisdom in writing about his favourite flies.



Noel's flies

At our club meeting on 16th April members were invited to bring along fly boxes and some of our "go to" flies for discussion. Among others Dave Chote brought along a box of his beautifully tied small CDC flies he

fishes with great success at the Dee. Mark Aspinall showed his CDC and some other dun patterns he uses with equal skill at Penstock Lagoon.

Noel Wilson brought along a card with some of this season's successful flies for Woods Lake, Arthurs Lake, Little Pine and Great Lake. I suggested to Noel that the flies and the comments he made about how he fishes them would be a good article for the next Vice if I took some photos to go with it. Noel, being the generous man he is, agreed and here it is.

The flies

I selected those I showed at the meeting because they had caught a fish or two last season. They are like most flies I use – sometimes they catch one or two and sometimes they do not. I try other patterns if these are not getting results.



Woods Lake:

Early in the season I try 3 fly combo's like a *Tom Jones* or *Sticky*, *Becky's Cat*, *Tungsten bead Shrek* –(Westy's tie - shorter tail) or a normal *Shrek*, as the point fly



In October/November I have had success with three small wets/nymphs fished on a Ghost Tip intermediate.

For example - *Duck Fly* on the top dropper), *Brown Nymph* and *Pheasant Tail Nymph* (point. As the season progresses and there are more duns about these three flies can be fished on a floating line with a long leader to get the three flies hanging in three different water levels if you have a weighted fly on the point. Worth a try when the fish are not taking



the duns or they are not taking your dries. In my experience fishing these flies on the "hang" before recasting is a must.

Dries - Para *dun* (dark body, dun hackle and tail)



Yum-Yum,



Slim Stokes' Nymph with tuft of possum tail.



Arthurs Lake:

Early Season:

I like to use a Small *Black and Peacock* on the top dropper, *Stokes' Nymph* and *Shrek* on the point



Or: *Stokes' Bead Head Nymph*, *Brown Nymph* and *Small Black & Peacock* or *Sticky*



Others: *Macca's UV Black Yeti*, *Becky's Cat*, *Pete's Roo/Rabbit*

Dries : *Yum-Yum*, *Stokes Nymph greased up*, *Trothodge* and *Klinkhåmers*



The Pine

I use a good floater like a *Para Dun* on the dropper and a *Peck's Dun* on the point to help keep the dun floating well.



If the fish are not on duns I try the, *Duck Fly*, *Dark Brown Nymph* and *PT Nymph* combo.



Great Lake

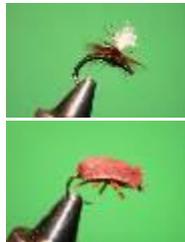
Wet: *The Green Rabbit* - has fluoro orange tag and Jungle cock type eyes. My original tie had seal's fur Green/yellow mix body



(Some years ago I caught an 8 pounder from the shore in Lake Crescent on a size 12 fishing it very slowly on edge of the marsh). The same fly with the UV olive body is good – anywhere there are galaxias about.

Dries - I would try: *Trothodg*, *Gibson's Gum Beetle* which I bought with a FTC voucher, *Fiery Brown Beetle*, *Josh*

Bradshaw's Beetle, *Para Bibio* and *Modified Bibio* with possum tail wing (Bruce Barker tie)



How do I fish?

Early in the season I predominately fish wet flies from a boat in 1-7ft of water with a Cortland Ghost Tip line (tip is intermediate sinker). If I have to fish deeper (which I don't care for much) I would change to a Extra Fast Sink tip line. I fish 2 or 3 flies – usually 3 flies on Maxima Green leaders.



I tie up the leaders 3.6 metres long with droppers added with a surgeons knot 1.2 metres apart. I tie up a few leaders in advance and store on old spools. Tangles (bunch of B...s) do happen when fishing 3

flies. I can then replace the leader quite quickly, rather than try to untangle a birds' nest.

Neil Grose's book, "*Essential Fly-Fishing Techniques for Australian Lakes*" has some good tips/instructions on leader and loop construction, as well as other guidelines about lake fishing.

For dries on a floater I use a 9ft Cortland tapered leader and add 5lb and 4lb Maxima green for dropper and tippet. I seldom fish 3 dries but when I do I still add tippets to a tapered leader even though it makes the leader a bit long I find it easier to manage than 13ft of straight 4lb leader.

Favorite Wet

Small Black and Peacock

Hook: B175 #12

Thread: Black 8/0

Tag: Fluoro orange or red with 4mm flash each side

Rib: Gold wire - fine/med

Body: Peacock herl

Wing: Black Yeti soft fur strip

Eyes: Originally Jungle cock – I use a substitute from a slither cut from a peacock feather stem

Head: Black with 2 coats of shiny nail polish

(Fishes well as a single fly in shallows early season and as a top dropper from a boat.)



Favorite Dry

Yum-Yum (Chris Hill's Tie)

Hook: B100 #12-14 (Tony Dell likes B110 – it's stronger)

Thread: Black or hot orange

Tail: Claret or brown marabou or soft hackle

Rib: Fine copper, red or gold wire

Abdomen: Black holographic tinsel

Wing: Possum tail butts

Thorax: Claret possum body fur (originally seal's fur) I use a mix of claret seals fur and natural possum tail roots

Head: Black or hot orange – hot orange for dull day



A very useful fly at dun time as an emerger or in a 2 or 3 fly "searching team" – particularly in Arthurs. A key feature is that when you give it a pull it goes under and bobs up again through the surface film.

Tight Lines for 2012/13 season - Noel

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.

DM

Davie McPhail



I have to start off this section with the efforts of my all-time favourite online tyer.

Davie McPhail is a

Scottish fly tyer of exceptional skill and has been a regular contributor to British fly tying magazines for many years. He has released a huge number of videos on YouTube. His techniques and tips are truly inspiring.



For a sample of his skills check out this small *Claret Dabbler* pattern that works really well in our lakes.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyVcckwlbQE>

More videos by Davie McPhail

http://globalflyfisher.com/video/more_by/Davie+McPhail



Casting Day Salmon Ponds April 1 2012

There may be no better place to be at the onset of autumn than the Salmon Ponds at Plenty - The trees resplendent in their golden hues and the air crisp and clear with just a tinge of anticipation. Such was the setting for the Annual Casting Day on Sunday April 1.



The competition was held on the main pool. Hoops were set up in the water for the first event – *The Margaret Knight Dry Fly*. Essentially the object was to cast your fly into the series of hoops as accurately as possible. Three attempts were allowed at each target. Five points was awarded for the first cast, three for the second and one for the third. This was a lot more difficult than it sounds!



Another minor difficulty which added to the tension was 'walking the plank' out to the casting platform.

After a welcome and demonstration of the required technique by our beloved president David the competition began in earnest. The competitors took it in turns to demonstrate their skills and all eyes were on Pam and Nalina the official judges.



Excuses, mild sledging and general polite encouragement were the order of the day, Left handers had the advantage of no overhanging branches and the early casters had little or no wind to deal with.

The Results

- Margaret Knight Dry Fly.
- 1st Pete Murphy
- 2nd Doug Miller and Luci Wilkins (Equal)
- 3rd Tim Munro

The *Hedley Griggs Wet Fly* part of the competition involved a new placement of the hoops – all in a straight line and about 1.2m or 4 feet apart. For this part there was to be none of the false casting allowed in the Dry Fly event after the first hoop. The technique was to cast to the first hoop, strip off enough line and then with some false casting lift and shoot to the next hoop in one motion. Again, a lot more difficult than it sounds

Results

- Hedley Griggs Wet fly
- 1st Pete Murphy and Andrew Hood (Equal)
- 2nd Luci Wilkins
- 3rd Tony Dell

The climax was of course the lunch down by the Plenty River. If you haven't been to the Salmon Ponds for a while give yourself a treat and



go and have a look at the way it has been developed.

If you came along then you had a great time. If you didn't then you missed a wonderful day in a brilliant setting. Many thanks go to our judges, Nalina and Pam, and all who turned out on the day. Special thanks to the hard working committee who were responsible for the organisation.- and of course thanks to Luci for the magnificent lemon tart and her boys Edward and Thomas who raised some money for the club with a cleverly conceived conker guessing competition.

Pete Murphy guessed the closest and capped off his total dominance of the day to win the lemon tart.

So... the overall results...

- 1st Pete Murphy
- 2nd Luci Wilkins
- 3rd Tim Munro



Thanks also to David Hemmings for supplying me with the official results and doing so much on the day.



Snowy Ranges Mid-Winter Fishing Day

There is no better way to rid yourself of the mid-winter blues than to don the neoprene waders and thermals and go out and catch a whole mess of unbelievably large fish on a fly.

Such was the case on the middle Sunday of June when John Smith, Malcolm Crosse, Brian West and the hugely generous Robert Cleary paved the way for another wonderful Day at the Snowy Ranges just out of Judbury.



The day threatened to be wet and windy and the mood in our car was slightly apprehensive as we traveled through the misty rain of the Huon Valley. The sudden downpour when we were tackling up added to the mood. But when we walked down to the main shed to hear the pep talk from John and Malcolm the sun broke through everything began to improve.



The fish in the pond nearest to the main meeting shed were immediately willing and rumours (fed by Westy) of a monster brown lurking in the back channel saw this small pond being the focus of anglers young and old all day.

The Atlantic salmon pond was well patronised and with good reason. The fish proved reasonably challenging to hook at times and extremely challenging to land – such was their size and unwillingness to come to hand! Nevertheless many fish were caught and bought and taken home for a midwinter feast.



I had a fantastic morning with nearly every cast coming up with a take – most of which were successfully landed. A measure of smugness crept into my being and led to the decision to catch as many as I could in the morning and then catch and keep 2 really big ones in the afternoon. As ever pride comes before a fall and I only managed one fish with the last cast off the afternoon which was expertly netted by Craig Granquist's daughter. I did however manage to catch and release a wide variety of native trees and shrubs that seemed to be taking flies of almost every colour and size.



The day was a complete success with about 70 people attending. The noise of happy children and proud

parents rang out all day. There were many highlights including 3 generations of the Wilson family in attendance all catching fish. It was even suggested that Steve Martin actually released some fish unharmed back into the pond!



Once again the lunch break was a highlight with some magnificent barbecue food on offer. The happy and friendly atmosphere and muted mid-winter sunlight was magical.

All who attended had a great day and the talk in my car on the way home was gilded with the satisfaction that is only generated by a ridiculously high catch rate and monster fish.

Many thanks to John, Malcolm and Westy for all the organisation and special thanks to Robert Cleary for once again letting us use his magnificent paradise on the edge of the south west wilderness.



Ad-Vice -Tips and Tricks

Gadgets, gear and good ideas are always close to the surface whenever fly tyers get together. This trial 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.

Monomaster

I hate those bits line that always get stuck in the carpet of my boat or fill up the pockets of my waders so I bought a Monomaster. This little device only cost about \$12 and is my favourite new gadget. It is easy to use and takes bits of leader of almost any size. It is easy to empty and re-use. I bought mine online but I am sure they would be in any 'good tackle shop'. For a quick video of how it works click the link below.



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u66c4AwVdWk&feature=player_embedded

Noel's Leaders

When he ties up the leaders he mentions in his article in this edition, Noel Wilson buys 230m of Maxima at Big W or Anaconda for about \$12 instead of \$5 odd for 25m on the smaller leader spools. The 4lb for dries is cheaper again.

Frozen Ring?

Pete Murphy says, 'If your rod rings freeze over early in the season, you should go home! If this is impossible then just dip them in the water and at least one of your problems will be temporarily solved.



Clarendon, Tasmania

To become home for the Australian Fly Fishing Museum.

Why Clarendon?

Clarendon House is one of the most important properties of the National Trust (Tasmania). It was built by James Cox in the 1830s and is an architectural and heritage icon with many unique features. Situated in Tasmania's northern Midlands, the western side of the property is flanked by the South Esk River and across the river can be seen Symmons Plains.

What has this got to do with a fly fishing museum? Fly fishing in Australia is predominately fly fishing for trout and it was James Arndell Youl* from across the river at Symmons Plains who was primarily responsible for the successful acclimatisation of trout in the southern hemisphere. After many attempts the first little trout hatched in Tasmania in 1864. The same James Youl had married Eliza Cox, sister of James Cox, at Clarendon in 1839 and this was an association that two keen fly fishers, Mike Stevens and Ron Dennis, had firmly in their minds when they were looking for a place to house a fly fishing museum. Discussions with the National Trust's (Tasmania) managing director, Chris Tassell, progressed quite enthusiastically, and when accommodation for the museum was suggested in the shepherd's cottage, the fate was sealed. Clarendon was now to become home for Australia's first fly fishing museum. Although there is a Museum of Trout Fishing at Plenty, near Hobart, there is little interest for fly fishers. This project is certainly not about taking anything away from the Plenty museum, but more about building a relevant, outstanding and lasting legacy focussed on fly fishing in both fresh and saltwater in Australia.

Tasmania has a long and rich heritage of fly fishing and although trout were not the target it was in March 1833 that fly fishing was first mentioned in print in Australia. Thomas Richards published 'A Day's Fishing in the Plenty' in the Hobart Town Magazine thirty years before the acclimatisation of trout. Richards writes about catching mullet on a

'red hackle' or 'fern fly', but it is certain the fish were Australian grayling. He goes on to say they filled their baskets, stopped to lunch on 'broiled fish, new potatoes, and bottled porter' and then continued 'to the river side, to renew our murderous sport, which we pursued with unrelenting vigour, till our baskets [would] positively contain no more'.

R. H. Wigram came to Tasmania in 1921 and was a direct descendant of Money Wigram who donated space on the ship Norfolk which brought the first trout ova to successfully hatch in Tasmania. 'Dick' Wigram, as we all know, wrote several keenly sought and collectable books on fly fishing and he is just a small part of the history which will be captured at the Australian Fly Fishing Museum.

Why is the National Trust involved?

Whilst Clarendon seemed like a perfect fit for somewhere to house a fly fishing museum there was much more. A strong acquisitions policy was important, as were charitable donations, grants, insurance, liabilities, curating, conservation, financial controls and more. Starting a museum from scratch and trying to ensure all necessary things were covered seemed impossible, but it was realised



Clarendon House, a fine example of Georgian architecture with a grand portico influenced by the designs of colonial America. The Australian Museum of Fly Fishing will be housed in the shepherd's cottage.

that the National Trust do all these things, and have successfully done so for many years. Most of the challenges were the same. After some soul searching it was realised that being part of the National Trust brought huge benefits and reinventing the wheel

was not necessary. The museum was proposed to operate in a similar way to other 'Friends of the National Trust' groups. This gave control to the Australian Fly Fishing Museum committee, but with all the guidance, knowledge and benefits of the National Trust. The Trust covers all the on ground property costs, plus the committee's costs for insurance, financial auditing, stationery, etc. and will provide the committee with its systems and protocols to run the museum. And that's how the Australian Fly Fishing Museum will operate.

A committee was formed and includes: David Grisold, Tony Wright, Jennie Chapman, Michael Youl, Rex Hunt, Chris Tassell, Mike Stevens, Todd Lambert, Janet Lambert, Ron Dennis, Hugh Maltby, Greg Peart, Peter Boag and Stuart Cottrell. The committee has developed an Action Plan and a Business Plan, brochures and more.

Applications for grant money has started and already been successful with a \$25,000 grant and more than \$30,000 of private money already promised. Plans for acquisitions, restoration and display of museum pieces has also begun.

An initial chronology of fly fishing's important dates, events and people is being developed and from this an acquisitions and displays plan will be developed.

The museum is starting with a clean slate and this will allow something really special to take place where every display will be planned from the start, rather than put together from a haphazard collection of existing material.

When will the Australian Fly Fishing Museum open?

4 May 2013 with a grand opening dinner, cocktail party and photography exhibition.

If you have suggestions on exhibits, people, places or events that you think warrant inclusion in the initial display please forward them to Mike Stevens mike@tasfish.com or the Curator, Rhonda Hamilton Rhonda.Hamilton@nationaltrusttas.org.au

Also, if you have or know of interesting fly fishing material you would like to donate, or sell when we have money, please contact Mike Stevens on 0418 129949 or mike@tasfish.com or Jennie Chapman at Clarendon.

*James Youl was born at Caddai, near Windsor, NSW, on 28 December 1810. He was called 'Arndell' after Thomas Arndell, assistant surgeon to the new settlement in Australia, who sailed with the First Fleet in 1787. James was at school in England when news reached him of his father's death in 1827. He promptly assumed the position of head of the family at the property in Van Diemen's Land that had been acquired from 1819. He was granted 500 acres of land at Symmons Plains in 1827. His male siblings also received similar land grants from the Crown. By 1828 James had purchased several other grants from the families of Bostock, Lucas, McNab, and Smith. James was appointed JP (1837) and a magistrate, and was keenly interested in public affairs. He married Eliza Cox on 9 July 1839 at Clarendon, Evandale, Tasmania. Eliza was born 25 August 1817 at Richmond, NSW, the second daughter of Lieut William Cox (1789–1850) and Elizabeth Piper (1792–1872) of Hobartville, Richmond, NSW. William Cox Jnr, eldest son of William Cox Snr, is now best remembered for building the first road over the Blue Mountains. James and Eliza had five boys and eight girls. [From the Friends of the West Norwood Cemetery Newsletter, September 2008, by Bob Flanagan.]



The Australian Museum of Fly Fishing will be housed in the shepherd's cottage - a short distance from both the grand Clarendon house and the South Esk River.

This article was provided by:

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rjgrisold@bigpond.com

Items of interest the museum is looking to acquire through donation or purchase.

Please contact Mike Stevens: 0418 129949
mike@tasfish.com, Rhonda Hamilton, the museum curator, Rhonda.Hamilton@nationaltrusttas.org.au or the National Trust Head Office 6344 6233

- Anything related to fly fishing in Australia from 1833 to current. Fresh and salt water – all species. If it has any history available even better.
- Photos, slides, postcards or newspaper cuttings.
- Fly fishing tackle and ephemera from 1830s to present. The earliest tackle would have been manufactured in England. May include bags, scales, line winders, lines, casts, creels, jackets, hats etc.
- Fly rods – earliest would be English, such as Hardy, Farlows etc.
- Fly rods – Australian. These may include Southam, Gillies, Turville, JR Green, Slazenger, Robert Cox, Butterworth etc.
- Australian fly rods by Suffrein – from 1872.
- Landing nets by Hardy, Streamcraft and others.
- Fly reels - English up to 1960s.
- Fly reels – Australian such as Gillies, Hartleys, Dawson, Rainbow, Hartsport, Southam, Goulburn, Spalding, Atlas, Derwent, Austin, Streamcraft and more.
- Catalogues from Mick Simmons, Hartleys, MSD (Melbourne Sports Depot), Gillies, Sydney Fishing Tackle Supply, Hordern, Eastways and other various stores and often hardware suppliers.
- Flies from earliest times – especially those in boxes, or owned by someone of renown.
- Diaries – especially from 1800s and to mid 1900s.
- Books on fly fishing – especially Australian or with Australian content.
- Old magazines and papers with Australian fly fishing content.
- Books, booklets and newsletters from fishing and fly fishing clubs with fly fishing content.
- Tourism posters featuring fishing.
- Old film footage of fly fishing or fly fishers.
- Branded boxes and ephemera from Eastways, Mick Simmons, Bridges Bros, Charles Davis, Allen and Slater, Wigram and Ross etc.
- Annual reports from fly fishing clubs, or reports with fly fishing content.
- Fly fishing clothing from the past.
- Display cases suitable for the museum.
- Items the Museum can auction or sell to raise funds.
- In kind support if you are a cabinet maker for example and can help build displays.

Wanted

Public Notice

Vice

Warning: This might upset some of our boat building members .

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

Former member Brian Proudlock has a friend who wants to sell the following books:

'Uncertain Trout' R H Wigram

'Trout Fishing in NSW' J Hedge

'Chasing Rainbows' G Patterson

Brian's phone number is 62346231

For payments to the club

BSB: 807 007

Account No: 12130456

Name: Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club Inc

Then email the details to Tim Munro

tim@theatreroyal.com.au

No Green tooth brushes at the shack please.



Livio De Marchi sculpted a full size Ferrari F50 boat out of wood. [\[link\]](#)

Membership Application

The committee has received an application for membership from **Mark Quinane**. Mark has been proposed by David Hemmings and seconded by Peter Murphy. The application will be considered at the committee meeting on August 9th.

For Sale

A Real Bargain.



Sorry Sold.

Community Notice

Your committee

President Dave Hemmings
PH (03) 6224 4006

Vice President Malcolm Crosse
PH (03) 6244 7009

Secretary Peter Murphy
Ph (03) 6243 0288

Treasurer Tim Munro

Committee Members

John Smith
Andrew Blackwood