



The Vice

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

Volume 12 Issue 1

Summer 2014



Presidents Report

What a summer it has been! As I write it is thankfully not the summer that last year caused the bush fire devastation here in Tasmania. Sadly however other states and territories are suffering with loss of lives and property are thoughts go out to them.

Through the wind and more wind of late December and into January I know many members put in a lot of time on the water for little result. At this time of the year we all hope for some "top of the water" action and I can be pretty safe saying that most anglers have not had much in the way of dry fly fishing, even though at times there has been enough food on top to bring on the fish.

Whilst the fishing has been slow, on our club front the member activity has been good.

The Penstock Field weekend in late

November attracted some 24 members and whilst not many fish were caught in the Penstock the group took fish from other lakes. It was great to see Murray Proctor taken out of his comfort zone of the Penstock by Brian West and go to Arthurs for a productive few hours.

The Saturday evening long table three course dinner was outstanding. A credit to Mark Aspinall, Steve Butler and others who teamed up to cater for and serve a lavish three course sit down dinner for 24. A great effort and much appreciated by all who attended.

It certainly is a calendar event not to miss and at 24 we are nearing the upper limit of our catering team's abilities.

Following this our Christmas drinks and supper at the Lenah Valley RSL in December attracted more than 20 members and an enjoyable social evening was had.

In January the committee had its live in weekend at

the Miena shack with members entering into some spirited discussions on various topics relating to the management and future of the club.

A number of the agenda items are to be forwarded for discussion at future general meetings.

A couple of items for members one that Steve Butler who must be moving up the ladder as the top club Chef after again excelling with a gourmet Saturday evening meal is to produce and activate a Fly Tyers Facebook page .

The Vice will take on a new look with the purchase of new software which hopefully will be on line for our next edition.

A field weekend with a difference at Peter Hayes complex is planned for later this year so stay tuned.

Our scheduled Miena lodge dinner meeting went ahead with some 35 attendees who came to listen to Jim Allen who

Inside this issue:

Vale Jim Davis	2
Editorial	4
Golden Stickies	5
Fly Tying on the WWW	7
Macquarie Trip 2013	8
Tips from the Top Ad Vice Tips and Tricks	9
Float Tube 101	10
Penstock Weekend	11
Club Contacts and Classifieds	1

concluded the meeting with an interesting, thought provoking and some controversial address.

With the February meeting coming up, I, along with Steve Martin, David Young, Brian Mac, Tony Dell and John Smith will all be heading to various parts of New Zealand.

This NZ venture by members will surely be

material for a general meeting program event later in the year and it will be interesting to do locations on the day comparisons.

Finally an event change, the fly casting is again on at Ross Scrims place at Woodbridge on the Sunday 16th March with more details to follow so hopefully will see you there.

For the rest of the summer let's hope the weather is kinder and the fishing improves along with better returns.

Malcolm Crosse

Vale Jim Davis



It was in the Spring of 1969 when I first meet Jim Davis who at the time was

the neighbour to a friend and work colleague who had a shack at Dennes point on Bruny Island.

Jim at that time was still involved with the family farm on the island and also worked as a part time builder. Jim's huge knowledge of the sea fishery around the Island was a window opener to the secrets of sea fishing in Tasmania for me. We spent a lot of time around the shores of Bruny and out in Storm Bay chasing salt water stuff.

Jim at that time had also just discovered Fly Fishing and as the reason I came to Tassie was to chase Trout we were both just

starting on this journey and on my visits to Bruny would fish the Lagoon at the end of the Island's runway - He with great success and me, with little.

I had only been a member of the FTC for a couple of years when I had the opportunity to nominate Jim for membership (If I remember correctly it was Don Hammond who seconded his application)

Jim proved to be an active and from the start a colourful member of the club and was the OIC of the first upgrade to the Miena shack not long after it had been dragged up from the shores of the rising Great Lake .

In this time it became apparent to me that this guy was indeed an amazing angler. Long before he had a shack at the Dee he had a small caravan and I remember one day at the Dee outlet with Pat and kids in tow where he was polaroiding and catching large Rainbows as they cruised in the canal outflow.

Jim at that time was one of the undisputed kings of the Dee Lagoon and could be seen early or late in the day sliding in an out of the trees standing up in his tinnie tracking smutting fish or the chasing the frustrating Jassid feeders this place is well known for.

Jim went on to have his own place at the Dee village and used this as a base to fish the

Lakes country.

It was in the early 1990's that I introduced Jim to competition fly fishing and I remember the first comp he went into he did not do that well and in his words "that bullshit was not for him". Sometime later and with some further persuasion, Jim had a crack at the game again and was up in the top finishers. He was hooked on the game.

He qualified for his first overseas trip to fish in the Oceania's in New Zealand out of Rotorua and it was a big adventure for the lad from Bruny who on his first international flight out of Melbourne was taking photos of the airport !!

Jim would go on to travel the world as a member of the Fly Fishing teams representing Australia.

He had the honour of being the team captain when the Australian team competed in Finland.

During this time Jim who was basically a lone angler teamed up with Jonathan Stagg from the Meander valley who had also taken to competition fly fishing .

Jim and John would become firm friends in the fishing game with Jim passing on his huge amount of angling knowledge to Jonathan. Jonathon has also gone onto to become one of

the leading anglers in the world and I know John will be greatly saddened by Jim's death .

Jim, ever the experimenter and out the front angler, came back to Tassie after experiencing the angling in the UK style lake boats which are much longer



and slenderer than we use here in Tasmania. It was not long before we would all be used to seeing the " Bob Fly " on the lakes which was Jim's version of the pommies lake boat and was a cut in half 12 foot Purdon dingy with a section fabricated and added in the middle. This made it some 16-17 feet long. This boat and Jim accounted for many trout taken from our lakes.

Of late Jim's farm in the Derwent valley has been home and in between watering and farming Jim still fished a lot and came to our meetings with stories of his latest outings.

My last recollection was Jim at a meeting of the Fly Tyers Club in October I think? When he had just fished Lake Crescent for "Just a couple at 7-8lbs apiece!!!

Caught on a big Black fly"

Jim in my mind will live on as one of the best hunting type angler I have known and I, like other members of the FTC, are deeply saddened at his passing.

Our condolences go out to Pat who as his quiet and understanding wife supported Jim in all his angling pursuits, to Shaun and the girls our thought are with you also.

Malcolm Cross



Just to endorse Malcolm's comments re Jim. Without knowing Jim as well, he was always full of bubbling enthusiasm and advice whenever one ran into him. Jim was truly generous with his vast knowledge and truly a gentleman. We are all the poorer for his passing.

Tony Abel

Jim Davis Great Fisherman, Great Bloke, a Legend .I only fished with Jim a couple of times in my boat next to his on Meadowbank where he fished often but told few. On the day he only caught a few while I caught zip. I admired the longest 12 foot Purdon dinghy I have ever seen and after a post fishing beer and a chat Jim showed me his fly box and collection of reels. A real eye opener for me. He also told me he used "spider wire" as a leader which I am yet to try. We often talked about NZ fishing and his successful trips to the North Island. I was itching to fish with him in NZ but I doubt if I could have keep up. He was passionate about his fishing and about policy issues that might effect the fishery. The lagoon of Islands demise and the trawler factory ship are two that come to mind. I recon the only ones who will not miss Jim are the Tasmanian Trout, now a lot safer My thoughts are with Pat and Family

John Smith

I've only known Jim for a few years. We met on one of the western lakes around Gowan Brae. I was fishing with John O'Halloran and here is Jim putting along on his postie bike. JO'H knew him and we invited him to our camp and after a few reds he agreed to fish with us next day. Then followed an abject lesson - he caught a ratio of 4 to our one!. Then an expedition to what we now call Jimmies Tarn. Another lesson, an 8 pounder and news that he and Staggie had caught 15lb, 12 Lb and 10 in the last year. Last saw him in Nov when he was at Newtons Marsh and he was still an inquisitive as ever and we discussed his tarn and fishing the western lakes. Commiserations to his friends and family - a great man .

John Miedecke

Editorial

The fishing in early January was difficult to say the least. I think I should take up wind surfing! Apart from the Penstock weekend and a brief encounter before Christmas I have had a very windswept January. The highlight was a trip to Woods with Laurie Matcham when, after trying everywhere we finally found some feeding fish and managed to land some beauties.

This edition of The Vice has some interesting articles on Caddis, reports on the Macquarie and Penstock weekends and some tributes to Jim Davis whose passing has saddened everyone on the club. To me Jim was an absolute legend and every word, tip or suggestion was one to file away for future reference. It is a great pity that his amazing knowledge and passion is lost to us. Sincere and heartfelt condolences to his family.

I know that there are many members heading overseas to places like New Zealand, South America and many other places this year and it would be great if they could take a bit of time to write down some of their experiences for The Vice as I am sure all members would love to read of their exploits. Also, as the Summer fades and Autumn draws near it would be great to receive some reports from other members - even if it just to send in a recipe for your favourite go-to fly. All I need is a photograph and a few words to make a good article!

On that note - I received a tip at the Christmas Drink meeting about how to improve the taste of those 'muddier' fish but I can't quite remember who told me but I think it involved rubbing anchovy paste in the fish's cavity before cooking it. If anyone can enlighten me on the real recipe I would love that! In fact it would be great to have a section for the best ways to prepare trout generally!

Enjoy!



DM



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!**

Have a go

**Simply send your entry to Doug Miller
douglas.miller@education.tas.gov.au**

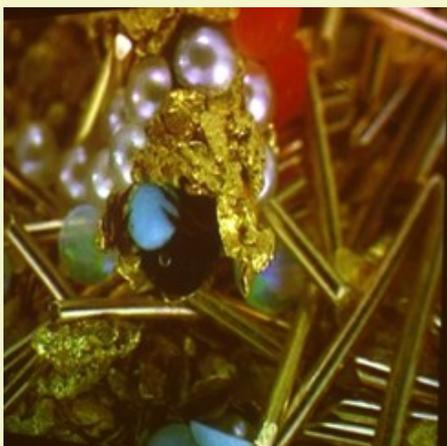
Coming Events

Date	Event	Contact
Feb 21-23	Dee Weekend	Dave Choate
March 7-10	North West Trip	Steve Butler
March 16	Casting Day at Ross Scrim's	Committee
May 30-31	Tiger Hut Weekend	Lyndon Cubbins
June 15	Snowy Ranges Day	John Smith

Golden Stickies



One of the most enchanting things I have seen recently that should be of interest to all fly tyers and readers of The Vice occurred on the banks of the Derwent River and is still there for all to see for the next few months I think. You don't need your waders or fishing rod – in fact you should possibly dress in black and wear something avant-garde and take along the culture loving members of your family. You will of course be going to MONA the Museum of Old and New Art at Moorilla.



For anyone who has been be assured that MONA is a totally amazing place and is well worth a visit anyway but the particular exhibition I am writing about is sure to impress. It is easy to miss as it is not very prominent but if you go past the fat red Porsche towards the end of the gallery you will see the work of the French artist (and apparently avid fly fisher) Hubert Duprat.

Duprat is a French artist who has been working with caddis lava since the 1980s and in that time he has developed a technique where he can get the caddis lava (Trichoptera) to construct their elaborate casings out of

the materials he offers them. Normally caddis lava will construct a casing out of river stones and whatever they can find. He gets them to make their homes from gold, opal and turquoise. The result is incredibly delicate and beautiful bejewelled casings being made in front of your very eyes!

At MONA you can watch these happily lava going about their business in a simple tank mounted on the wall, you can also see the actual resulting jewels and watch a video of the process!

If you want to see a YouTube video of Duprat talking about his art click the link below

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e78hni1LoSo>

This description of his art comes directly from the curator

The experiments of Duprat-a self-taught and self-professed amateur-have us intrigued. Duprat's approach to making art resists neat compartmentalisation, with his work plumbing the ripe borderlands between artistry and science. You can expect (among other things, mind you) an evocation of prehistoric symbolism and technical adaptation, as artistic expression meets rationality head-on.

Curated by Olivier Varenne, Jane Clark and Nicole Durling.

Source: MONA

Caddis Fly—Details

There are apparently 189 known species of Caddisfly in Tasmania and 480 in Australia. There are 17 species listed under the Tasmanian Threatened

Species Protection Act 1995. They feature so highly in the diet of trout that it is worthwhile finding out a little more about them.



Caddis-flies superficially resemble moths with tent-like wings and long antennae. However, they have hairs on their wings instead of scales and they do not have the coiled sucking mouthparts characteristic of moths.

Larvae and adults range in length from 4 to 20 mm...The majority of their lifecycle is spent as larvae, while adults are usually short-lived. Adult female caddis-flies lay their eggs in water, usually attached to stones or aquatic plants. Some species are able to remain underwater for more than 30 minutes due to hairs which hold a thin film of air around their bodies, acting as a physical gill effectively allowing the insect to breathe under water. Larvae can often be found on the undersides of rocks, protected by a collection of small pieces of stone, shells, or other materials which are held together by a secreted adhesive. Larvae may also be found in cylindrical cases, which they make and wear for protection. These portable cases are built from a variety of materials including sand grains and plant fragments. Usually only the head and legs protrude from the case and they will retract into this case when threatened or startled.

Source: THREATENED SPECIES UNIT

Department of Primary Industries, Water

and Environment

Listing Statement, Trichoptera June 2005

To find out more about the life cycle and habits this YouTube clip is sensational.



So the fun for us is to tie things that resemble these prolific creatures. In the lakes we seem to find mainly 'stickies' which hide in grass tubes and in rivers there appear to be ore of the case builders of the type favoured by Duprat.



One of the key triggers in a stick caddis seems to be the yellow head that protrudes from whatever case you want to create. People I have spoken to in club use anything from yellow wool to fluorescent yellow right through to a bright yellow/green bead. This represents the grub itself as it sits in its



house and swims around looking for whatever stick caddis look for to while away the time before they emerge as caddis flies.

Lyndon Cubbins and Ian Stokes told me of savage takes on their stickies that are made from brown electrical flex tied on a long shank hook at Woods Lake. David young showed me a version that he uses with the yellow tag near the bend of the hook with a slim peacock herl body. Laurie Matcham uses the bristles from plastic hair brushes for the body and a fluoro tag. All seem to work really well. I find that stickies with extended bodies often get tangled up in my leader which says more about my casting than it does about the fly.

Standard patterns abound on the internet and include a lovely pattern with peacock herl and a yellow glass bead described by Tony Dell in his excellent article in *FlyLife: A Basic Tasmanian Fly Box*



Just before Christmas I was fortunate enough to fish alongside Tony Abel on Little Pine and there was a caddis hatch. I was able to hook and subsequently unintentionally release an excellent sized brown that will increase in size as the season progresses. It took a caddis fly taught to our fly tying group by Laurie Matcham

Laurie's fly features an organza over wing shaped with the use of wing burners and a grey body with goose biot tails.

The adult caddis that I like to tie is one I learned from my favourite online tyer—Davie McPhail. This pattern involves making a wing from a speckled hen, lightly coating it with bug-bond and curing oit with a UV torch. The body is CDC and the horns are pheasant tail fibres. Check it out below.



Of course there are countless versions of the adult caddis with elk and deer hair patterns everywhere that also seem to double as grasshoppers at this time of the year. It would be great if readers of The Vice could send in some photos of the Caddis flies they like whether it be the lava or any other stage. In fact it would be great if people sent in any photo or recipe for the flies they like as it always makes for interesting reading!

So whether you use a simple peacock herl and yellow wool sticky or have a go at a jewel encrusted million dollar version it is worth having a few in your fly box. It is also worth taking the family on an outing to MONA and see a combination between man and grub that is truly remarkable.

DM



Fly Tying on the WWW

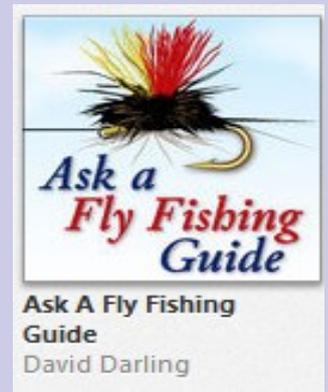
The World Wide Web is a treasure trove of information and tips for the fly tyer. YouTube in particular reveals a staggering number of responses to the most basic search. In this new trial section of The Vice the focus will be on some interesting tyers and techniques. If you have any favourites that you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

DM

I have been a fan of podcasts for quite a while now. (POD stands for Program on Demand for those of us born last century!) I love the idea of listening to clever people talking about what they love and sharing it all free of charge!

I have inherited my daughter's old iPhone and have had a great time searching iTunes for Podcasts that appeal to me. I have included some specifically related to Fly fishing—and there are more than you would think! Some are very ordinary but some are really quite interesting. It is always great to hear people passionate enough to want to go to the effort of creating a podcast to share with the world!

If you are interested each of these are available on the iTunes Store—they are probably available for Androids and other phones but my daughter hasn't let me have an old one of those yet...



Success at Woods January 2014



Macquarie River Field Trip 2013



The annual Macquarie Field trip was a fascinating one this year. Hosted and organised by Craig Granquist it featured some amazing evening hatches, frustration, anticipation and finally some excellent dry fly action.

A party of 6 members – Craig, Chris Berndt, Laurie Matcham, Steve Martin, Noel Wilson and the Editor attended the weekend on ... We had as our base the Shooters Shack at Mt Morriston Station 17 km out of Ross on the Tooms Lake road. Chris Laurie and I arrived on Friday evening to find that both Noel and Steve had already landed two fish each. Noel in particular snagged two beauties from a special spot at Tunbridge on the way up. Steve got his two from his kayak on the broad water at Mt Morriston (yes it is big enough for this!)



The evening meal was amazing with a smorgasbord of delight – much of which was supplied by Grace Matcham (remember those dinners at Laurie and Grace's place!). The talk was fast and funny and the anticipation for the next day was fuelled by one of the biggest hatches I have seen for years. The windows of the shack were smothered in trout food and the talk was of how the weather forecast was perfect.



After a restless sleep we woke early and started rigging up. Fish were rising and rings dotted the broad water. However, just as the first casts were made, a 'bastard breeze' (technical weather forecasting term) put everything down. Laurie was the only one to land a fish although there were quite a few missed strikes.



After a visit from the caretaker and an interesting discussion regarding who we were and what we were doing there took place we decided to venture off to explore other properties like Beverley and Fosterville. I landed and released a 'pounder' at Beverley which took a red spinner with confidence before that bastard breeze again made its presence felt. From there we walked on for what seemed like an eternity in search of productive water but the pumps had been on and the river was reduced to a trickle in many places. Laurie commented that he might need to be carried out if we kept walking. Craig suggested that this was unlikely to happen but he would happily retrieve Laurie's vest and its contents and make



sure that was preserved even if Laurie didn't make it!

Back at Mt Morriston at the end of the day the breeze dropped and the duns started. Again the river was full of feeding fish and we set about trying get them to take our flies. As always with fish and comedy, timing is essential. We had plenty of swirls and takes but couldn't get hook-ups. The exception to this was of course Laurie who demonstrated his experience by landing and releasing 7 fish while the rest of us marvelled at our ability to pull a fly out of the trout's mouth with seeming perfection!

After another memorable meal and a good night's sleep we woke to another weather change - this time, high winds and rain storms. After cleaning up we decided that a visit to shores of Tooms on the way home was advisable. It was a nice, but unsuccessful way to end the weekend.



Many thanks should go to Craig for once again organising this weekend. It takes a great deal of time and diplomacy to get access to the places and to keep all the landowners happy and on side so that the club will continue to have the benefit of this great weekend.

Tips from the Top

What happens in the shack stays in the shack but when the event or incident could assist other members and providing no one is hurt or their reputation damaged one must make exceptions.

The discussion was on Nymphing as a result of a successful effort on Woods Lake.

The main secret to remember is control sensitivity and feel...you must not miss even the slightest tug!

Use a floating line with a longish leader; say 16 to 23 feet, and the nymphs of your choice. The point nymph needs to be weighted to keep the line and the attached nymphs in a straight line so you can feel a tug on any of the succulent nymphs.

Make a long straight line cast making sure you have contact with the nymph. A couple of quick strips may be required to keep contact. Allow the nymph to sink to the required depth feeling with the second finger (three fingers down from the thumb) for the slightest tug. "There's nothing like a tug on the way down"

Retrieve slowly may be a figure eight keeping the line tight and the rod tip close to the water. "There's nothing like a tug on the way in."

Then draw the nymph up towards the surface and let it hang. "There's nothing like a tug on the hang or indeed on the way up".

To achieve the required skill level you require practise both on and off the water.

Our instructor admitted to hours of practise with his partner. "Ask your partner, nicely, to simulate the fish by holding one end while you assume the fishing position and control the other end of the line. Close your eyes. Ask your partner for a range of tugs, some very gentle

and some harder ones too. Your task is to detect each tug. You will be amazed at how this helps to improve your ability to feel the slightest grab. If you do it often enough your partner will insist you do more fishing and less practise!

O Forratug

Many thanks to our secret correspondent for this wonderful bit of advice—his (or her) identity must be protected at all costs. Please feel free to use any wisdom gleaned from this article to make all aspects of your lives that much richer!

DM



Ad-Vice -Tips and Tricks

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



One problem that often occurs when tying is that your bodkin can get covered in glue and all kinds of other gunk. To clean it you can scrape it with a knife, use a flame to burn it clean, rub it with sand paper or be a bit cunning and use an old film canister.

All you need is to put a small hole in the lid with the bodkin and put some steel wool in the canister itself. Then when you want to clean your bodkin just stick it in the lid and jiggle it about. The bodkin comes out clean.

Another interesting trick is a way to use up those old empty spools of fly tying. Rather than just throwing them out they can be used to hold various loose feathers that you might want to use later.





When you look at it in the harsh light of day it is really all Mark Rampant's fault. No one was catching anything much on the Dee weekend because of a 'bastard wind' that seemed to come in from all directions at once making it really difficult to hold a boat in the strike zone for any length of time. The best most of us could do was fluke one or two. But not Mark – no he managed 7 absolute beauties. His secret was of course a float tube.



Lots of people seem to have a float tube hidden away somewhere at the back of the shed. Probably something that looks like a cross between a tractor inner tube and a set of water wings of the type worn by children in the Dri-Clad in the backyard. From eyewitness reports these tubes were devices which the angler literally 'put on' and wandered into the water up to their armpits in rubber and then spun around aimlessly in the wind like a 3 wheeled Messerschmitt in the snow.

The current float tube design is nothing like this. It is light, comfortable to use, easy to pack and carry. It is also surprisingly affordable if you are willing to look around a bit. It is often possible to find them cheaply online on [eBay](#) or other

sites that have specials like [Cabelas](#). They are also available in our local shops but I haven't seen too many recently.

There are some essential pieces



of gear you need to make your tubing experience that much more comfortable. The first thing you need to consider is warmth. Your legs and your core will get cold if you don't get the basics right. I use neoprene waders with an under layer of micro-fleece pants. Others wear breathable waders with assorted thermal layers. A good quality, warm, waterproof short wading jacket is also a good idea. The second things you need are a pair of fins.

There are a few options in this



regard. You can always just put on a pair of normal fins that you might use for diving, swimming or body-surfing but these can be a bit tiring as they are often very long (or not quite long enough). I have a pair that I bought online that fit over the boots on my neoprenes and I love them. They are a 'one size fits all' set which suits me as they have to fit over my size 15 boots! They do this extremely well. There are a number of other options depending on whether you have booted waders or stocking foot ones. Comfort is the key

The third thing you might need is a dual action pump. This is essential if you want to avoid the 'blowing up the float tube with

your mouth' head spins. There are some excellent high-volume, light weight pumps around for less than \$30 from just about any sports store or even most hardware stores. If you are looking to carry your tube any distance then you can choose smaller pumps. Most of the new tubes are quite easy to carry when inflated but some might want to pack them into some places in an uninflated state. Other than this, there is not much more that you really need. (Dave Chote of course has customised his to accommodate his 'essential supplies'.

Once you have your essentials



(including a life jacket of course) it is just a matter of getting in and starting fishing. The tubes are incredibly manoeuvrable, basically silent and it is just like fishing from a big comfy arm-chair. There is also the added bonus of really giving our thighs a good work out with no jarring at all

We are still learning when and where to best use these brilliant little adventure machines that are so portable and easy to pack and we would encourage more memb4ers to give these things a red hot go!

DM





I had been looking forward to it for ages. A chance to get away before the madness of the festive season and hopefully coinciding with the notion that 'they might be looking up'! So the anticipation was high when I set off on Friday night and headed up to Malcolm's shack at Penstock for one of the premier events on the club calendar.



The sense of anticipation is always high at the beginning of a trip. I find that with every metre that I rise above sea level my level of excitement grows. I arrived at the turnoff to the Penstock just on dusk—running the wildlife gauntlet

with some success. I really liked opening up the heavy iron gate on the private road to probably the most exclusive set of shacks in the highlands . (I know Highland Waters is very special but these are real shacks and are really something quite different!)



A herd (leash, gang?) of about 20 deer ran across in front of me as I neared the second gate. Probably a good omen. The final few minutes along the track took me into the warmth and friendliness of the Malcolm's shack and I immediately felt welcome and relaxed. The talk was of fishing and

what was happening on the water. Red wine stoked enthusiasm and encouraged more speculation from the mornings hunting.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to spend the day in the boat with Noel Wilson and I jumped at the chance to learn from one of the humble masters in the club. We set out early at 9.30 which is a fitting time for gentlemen, and the first thing I did was covet Noel's 4-stroke electric start, electric tilt and trim Honda outboard. It made everything so easy! I now look at



my beloved Yamaha with a tinge of disappointment.



We fished all over the lake with little success other than a missed strike on my behalf. We fished the edges near the ladies walk, we fished the fence line, we fished the wall and we fished the reeds with no encouragement from the trout. We floated dries around with high expectations. We pulled wets of various weights and tried lines both floating and sinking all with no result until finally I managed to land a good one. It was a brown of around 2 and a bit pounds in fantastic condition, I followed up with another of slightly lesser proportions before the lure of a meal and a rest became the most sensible idea for two people who had put in a pretty serious amount of effort. Noel certainly has a huge wealth of experience and cunning that helped me in my relative infancy in the ways of the trout. It was unfortunate that he didn't manage to get one though as it would have confirmed the reputation that preceded him. He had however landed 2 good ones on the Friday which pleased Noel and those that had carefully constructed the 'Cormorant' poster on the door of his room!

Winds made the evening rise a non-event and we learned that others—Westy, Pete, Murray and others had given up on the Penstock and ventured off to Arthurs just to feel the weight of a fish. It turned out that my

2 and Dave Choate—who spent all day in his float tube—were some of the only successful ones from those who stuck it out on the Penstock!



There were 24 hardy souls back at the shacks for the famous 'long table' meal at Malcolm's shack. Three barbecues and huge slabs of meat appeared and serious chefs (Aspro, Murray and Steve among others) sprung into action, filling the air with mouth watering smells and frequent derisive laughter. The meal was outstanding. The conversation endless, the lies and embellishment legendary. We ate like kings and drank ourselves healthy. A night to remember!



Sunday dawned cold and blustery and I chose not to venture out. Jason Garrett arrived in preparation for an upcoming competition and spoke of fishing deep and slow with sinking lines and floating flies and I filed this away as something else to try when nothing else works. I am not sure if he was successful or not.



I set off for home at around lunchtime after thanking Malcolm for his hospitality and taking photos of Ross Scrim in a rather fine jacket which he is offering for sale (see the ad at the end of this edition.) The trip home is devoid of the anticipation and often involves the excuses you need to make for not succeeding in reducing the trout population. Still, that is why we go—next time it will be better and they certainly should be finally 'looking up'!

Many thanks to those who organised and hosted this special weekend and I can only recommend it to all club members as it is a definite highlight of the year.

DM



Your Committee

President: Malcolm Crosse

Mob: 0429 870 550

Vice President: John Smith

Secretary: Tim Lewis

secretary@tasmanianflytyersclub.org

Treasurer: Andrew Blackwood

Committee Members

Guy Nicholson

Steve Butler

For payments to the club

BSB: 807 009

Account No: 12130456

Name: Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club Inc.

Then email the details to

Andrew Blackwood andrew.blackwood@education.tas.gov.au

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

<http://tasmanianflytyersclub.org>



For Sale

Ross Scrim purchased this Hardy All Weather Fishing Jacket Size XL— It is for sale as new. This magnificent jacket has never been worn. It cost \$900, but he will accept \$350.

If you are interested please contact Ross on 0414722211 or email him at rossscrim@bigpond.com



And finally...

..Says the client to the Trout Guide:

How many miles before the river does a complete circle and brings us back to the car?

[Yes, someone actually said this!]

