



# The Vice

## News letter of Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

Volume 8, Issue 3

Winter Edition, August 2010



### Presidents Report



### Presidents Report

Its time to sort out the gear ready for the new season. Put that new line on the new reel and the new rod. We fly-fishers are a positive bunch at this time of year. Off we go with a spring in our step and hopes of good days.

I've really enjoyed some of the good days at the Fly Tyers' recently. The meetings at the new venue have been well attended and entertaining with fly-tying from Laurie Matcham, Tony Dell and Luci Wilkins. The cracker of a day at Snowy Range Fishery and terrific club dinner at Laurie and Grace Matcham's lovely home makes me feel fortunate to be amongst friends.

So with a new season about to open, the committee is keen to foster this spirit and have some exciting field days planned. The interesting discussion at the last general meeting concerning 'Friendship and Fishing days' whereby members that would not usually fish together are drawn to spend the day fishing has great merit. I think this would be a wonderful way in which to forge new friendships, to learn from each other and share good times. I look forward to seeing you at the general meetings, future events or on the boat ramp at dawn on 'the Pine'. Get stuck into em!

David Hemmings



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## Suggest a Caption

Smith is away so any captions sent after the last issue are not known, but here is a photo of Ashley Artis at the Tiger Hut Tying Weekend. (Smith is now back and no captions were received)



Suggest a caption to win a thirty dollar Voucher.

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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.

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## Editorial

Well I am pleased to back in this wonderful State after a 2 month drive around on the mainland with Helen in the van. We have a wonderful State which will get even better after the first of August. Now that Luci has discovered the legal impediment to interference with legal fishing we should all do more fishing this year (see page 12).

Things have changed a bit, or recycled with a new minister Brian Green in for his

second run in the inland fisheries portfolio. He is passionate about fly fishing and has managed to find \$400,000 to tackle the Carp spawning in Lake Sorell. He is keen to find ways and projects that will improve the fishery. It might be worth getting him to a future meeting.

IFS are asking people not to use outboard motors on Penstock because of the boating pressure on this small shallow water. Plowing and pollution are the main reasons for this change which could become law in the future.

I am keen to go to NZ, again next year possibly to the North Island in february/march or any other time for that matter if I can get a leave pass. Any one interested let me know.

Thanks to Peter Murphy and John Spencer for helping with vice in my absence.

Well that's it, just had the call "are you still on that bloody vice".

Tight Lines  
JTS  
Editor

## Coming Events

August 7-8 Opening Weekend Field Trip Miena Shack. Contact Peter Trott

August 16 Annual General Meeting Lenah Valley RSL

Contact  
John Smith nib1943@iinet.net.au

## Club Activities

### A New Zealand Field Trip

Murphy, Smith and a couple of mates; Guy Nicholson and Peter Riley, our NZ guide, headed off for Rotarua with great expectations and dreams of large NZ trout.

Expectations were enhanced when our host at the Waiteti River Caravan Park said “your in luck the fishing is great right now! In late summer when the lakes warm up large numbers of trout and smolt are attracted to the river mouths where crystal clear spring fed rivers deliver cold oxygen rich water.”

Sight fishing the streams is possible, but heavy traffic means the fish are flighty and most fish the mouths of the river, in the multi cultured picket lines and that is what we did at the mouths of the Waiteti and the Awaho. (See map next page)

Quite different to Tassie fishing and the methods varied. Some fished smolt flies, some fished large wets and some fished nymphs and all methods worked to some degree. Some fished close to the river mouth while a picket line formed further out where the cold waters met the warm. If you happened to get in front too far “you would hear a polite your standing in the fush bro”.

We fished there for a couple of days plus a night excursion and caught about 20 rainbows up 4.5 lbs. I must admit I did enjoy being stripped out to the backing even if I did loose the fish.

Off we headed for the Taupo and the mighty Tongariro with dreams of large rainbow trout sucking down cicada.



We stayed at David Graves’s batch at a small Maori village called Hatepe. The maori own the land and lease it out for people to build batches. Hatepe is located right on Lake Taupo where a river runs through and enters the lake. There is a river right on your doorstep and a river mouth. Excellent facilities which we all enjoyed greatly for only \$25 per day mates rates.

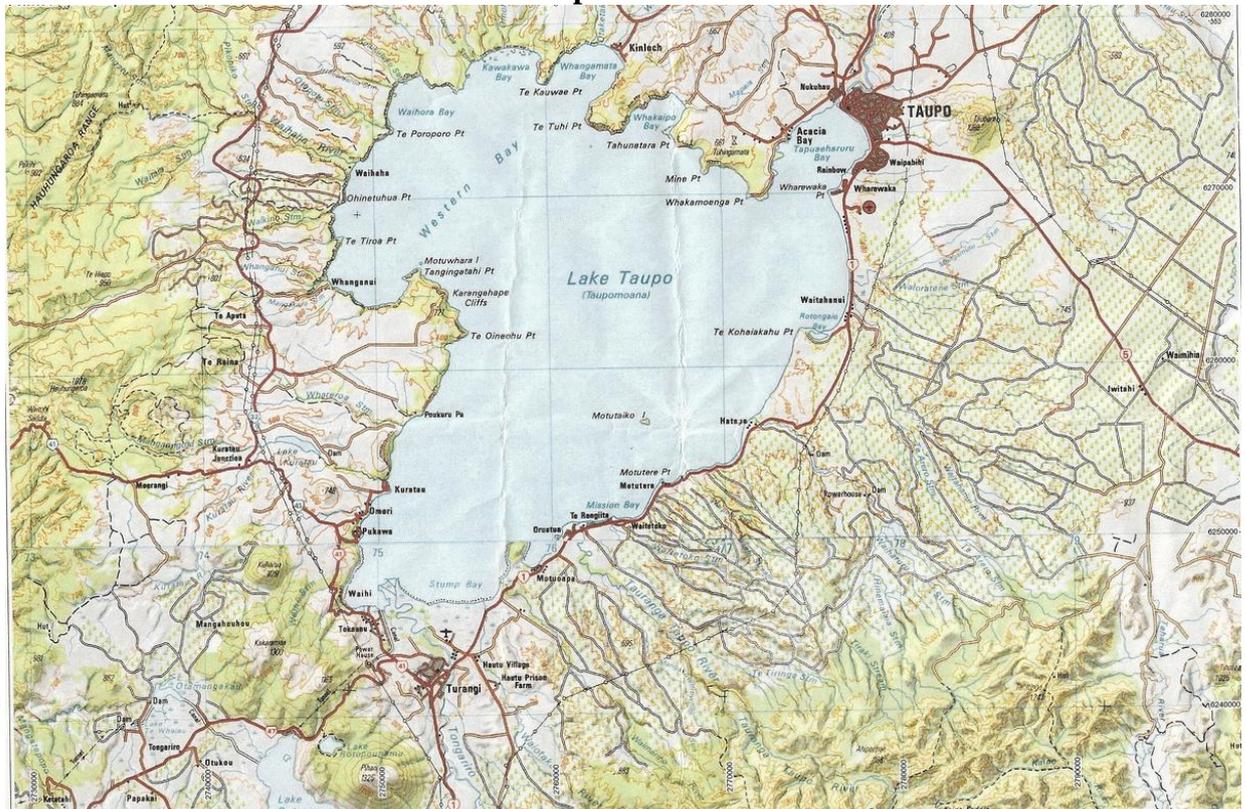
During the day we would make a trip to a river some where and usually return before sunset to fish the river or the rip at the river mouth.

Let’s start at the rip and then talk about the rivers and day trips. The river running through Hatepe is the Hinemaiaia a beautiful clear river with controlled flow as there are power stations up stream. In late March and April fish are attracted to the mouth to feed on smolt and to enjoy the cooler water running into Lake Taupo. This is called the rip and is popular with the locals who believe the fishing is best on a dark night. You can only fish between 5am and midnight in the Taupo area. Like any fishing local knowledge counts and we learnt as we went along talking to the friendly locals.

## Rotorua



## Taupo





### ***Fishing the rip***

We caught fish in the rip during the day and at night, fishing floating or sinking tip lines. The black woolly bugger worked quite well. If you have the rip to yourself you can cast across the rip allowing the current to drag the fly out and across. If there is a picket line then you cast down rip and let the current take it out a bit further. We also tried boobie flies on sinking tip lines with a luminous doll or smolt fly at night. The luminous flies are lit up with a torch and respond instantly to ultra violet. It would be interesting to try these on Tassie rainbows.



### ***Pete on the Tongorero***

The Tongorero is a mighty river which we fished on a few days. Dave Graves showed us the river on the first day and John Smith fluked a fish on the weighted hare and copper in the ruffled water. We saw heaps of fish in the clear water both rainbow and browns but the locals say forget these fish as “they saw you getting out of you car” and “fish the ruffled water”.

Peter and Guy hired a guide to show them the ropes and they were both successful in taking a few fish. Fishing the cicada with a nymph dropper worked well for some.



### ***Pete with a ripper rainbow.***

The Tarango Taupo or the TT provided a days adventure and a reasonable walk. Quite a few small fish were taken on the nymph, the hare and copper. We started fishing as soon as we hit the river from the bridge access and fished all the way to the cliff pool quite a few kilometres up stream. Apparently we would have been better off walking to the cliff pool and fishing upstream from there.

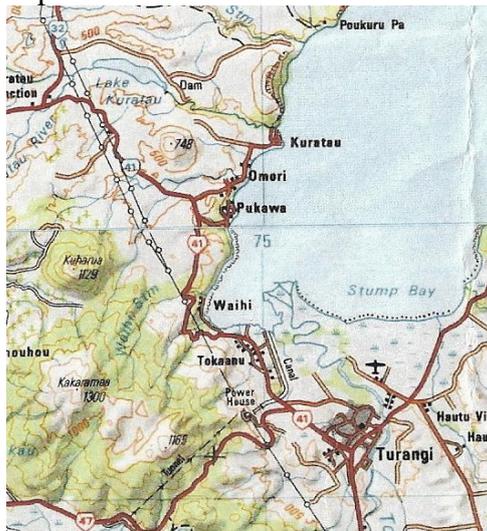


### ***The cliff pool on the TT***



*Lunch on the TT*

Karatau provided us with a few days excitement. There is the lake which has many rainbow trout of reasonable size. We fished cicada with some success to fish feeding on damsel flies and Murph caught a few on the nymph fished deep.



The lake forms part of a private Hydro scheme and the outflow from the power house is one arm that feeds into the Karatau river. The other arm feeding the river is spring fed and crystal clear. and Pete caught a nice rainbow on a cicada in the short section that can be fished.

We waded down stream through the treacherous waters, to some lovely water where John hooked and lost a wonderful rainbow after a lengthy fight.



*Lake Taupo near Kuratau*

The river mouth and nearby lake provided some exciting fishing with cicada. Wading in the warm lake near the cold river inflow Pete polaroided fish and we also saw fish taking from the top. John caught a five and a half pound rainbow on the cicada fished dry on a tropical sinking tip line on his 9 weight rod!



*The big one with a big one*

The other river we fished was the Hinemaiaia, a beautiful stream particularly up from the highway bridge. There is a hydro scheme which controls the river flow and it is far quieter than the mighty Tongariro. Fish were caught on cicada and nymph.



*A happy Guy*

Well in summing up it was a great trip with all of us catching fish. It was good to have a local Kiwi with us even though fly fishing was not his usual activity. The working holiday, fishing, was as cheap as chips. I think I would have spent more money at home. The exchange rate helped and access to high class accommodation at mates rates was helpful. New Zealand is a great place for travel and I am going back for more soon.



*Time for tea! Who needs a restaurant?*



That's all!

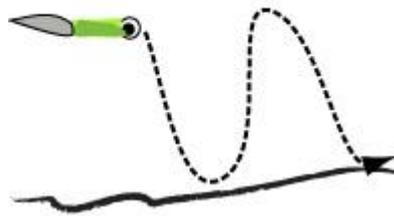


*Dave's Rough Batch*

## Fishing the Booby – what we should have known before rip fishing.

The basic method of fishing the Booby is very simple. Use a fast sinking line, preferably a shooting head, no more than 500 cm (24") of leader to the Booby and cast it out. Give the line plenty of time to sink and pull the fly down to the bottom. Even in only 2 or 3 metres of water this can take 30 seconds or more. If there is any current at all it will take longer. Once the fly has settled retrieve the fly in short, 10 to 20 cm (12") tugs, pausing between each tug. The pause is important, as the fly must be allowed to float back up, because tugging on the line pulls it down.

Before you make your first cast with the Booby throw the fly out into the water where you can see it. Allow the line to pull it under, and then watch the movement of the fly as you tug, and release, the line. Only by watching the movement of the fly as you tug and release will you learn how to work the fly.



## Our New Zealand Host Peter Riley

Peter is a true blue Kiwi, borne and bred on the North Island of NZ near Leigh and the Goat Island marine reserve. He spent a few years in Tasmania modifying our fishery by designing a few dams. We shared a flat in Hobart and played rugby in the 60s but we won't go there.

Peter is an engineer, geologist, rock mechanic. He established a large consultancy firm in Auckland. He knows all about dams, rivers, hydro schemes and geological features and loves explaining all about them even when driving. Who better to take on our trip?

Riley took us to Kuratau where we caught fish in the lake, the river, and near the river mouth in Lake Taupo. All fish were taken on the cicada. He

is a bit hard to tie down and only managed to stay a few days but Pete Murphy and I caught up with him again on his farm.

His farm has a small tidal creek which runs into Omhara Bay. Peter has a new walking boat which he drove out of the shed, into the creek and away we went snapper fishing. Only a few small snapper were boated but we managed a double Kahawhi hook up and Riley landed a beauty around 10lbs. The excitement was so great the tide was forgotten and on returning to the creek it was near enough to bone dry. There started another Riley adventure. After finding a nearby boat ramp, I stepped out and slipped feet over head, while Riley walked the boat up the ramp like a praying mantis on wheels: then drove it past

a gentleman drinking at a table (who has now gone into detox), along a main highway, across a farm road over a narrow treacherous bridge and finally into the farm shed.

Peter is a real enthusiast and he has an amazing boat, a recommended addition to any NZ trip. Thank you Peter.

John Smith

A fishing Trip with Pete  
An exciting and treacherous treat  
When the water runs out, his boat walks about,  
A truly remarkable feat.



### Member Profile: Ashley Artis

Ashley is well known in fly fishing circles, both in Australia and overseas, but many members may not know him because he lives in Devonport and is therefore unable to attend many club functions. We caught up with him at the Tiger Hut tying weekend. This weekend is one of the things he does each year and he gets a great deal of enjoyment out of it. The regulars at the Tiger Hut look forward to seeing Ashley, not just because of his wit and ability to tell stories, but also because he always brings along new tying devices and materials and is very generous with these. He is an excellent tyer, always willing to pass on his knowledge to others.

Ashley has been fly fishing for 44 years. He can't remember exactly why he took up fly fishing, but it was in Victoria where he grew up on the Mornington Peninsula, although he was born in



*Ashley has their attention*

Tasmania. He began tying flies in his second year of fly fishing.

He started coming to Tassie regularly for fishing and walking trips and kept a 4WD here for many

years and always intended to return to live. In 1985 he was appointed manager of Jackson Ford in Launceston and his family made the move. He was a founding member of the Devonport Fly Fishing Club and remembers having to suffer accusations of not being Tasmanian. He eventually silenced his accusers by presenting his birth certificate at a club meeting.

After 25 years in the motor industry Ashley started his own business supplying fly fishing gear to the retailers around Australia. He has been doing this for 16 years and now imports from about seven countries.

Ashley taught himself to tie by reading many books. Such is his expertise and reputation that he has conducted tying demonstrations in shops around Australia. He enjoys this and attracts good crowds.

He has fished in New Zealand and in many parts of America, but mainly in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and Oregon. Yellowstone National Park is one of his favourite fishing places. One of his memorable experiences was the first steelhead he hooked in one of the big rivers. It charged to the end of the pool, up the rapids to a second pool, then up the rapids to a third pool before he finally lost it.

The more remote areas of the Central Plateau are amongst his favourite fishing locations. The annual Western Lakes trip started from discussions with club members and Ashley has been on about ten of these, usually as leader and organiser.

He joined the Fly Tyers' Club almost 20 years ago after being proposed as a member by Malcolm Crosse and Don Hammond. What he values most about the club is the friends made over the years.



*I had the pleasure of a trip with Ashley to Lake Halkyard which I enjoyed immensely under his expert leadership. I was privileged to see Ashley in action. He not only ties some of the best flies in the nation he also knows how use them. It was just on evening when a fish moved about a cast and a half away. Ashley proceeded to cast his whole line presenting a dry which was taken by a nice brown trout. Ashley has served on the Inland Fishery Advisory Council doing his bit in helping to shape the future of the fishery. ed*

There is no doubt about Artis  
He gets the latest there is from the Tardis  
Brilliantly ties any fly so now you know why  
Ashley's known as the fly tying artist

Often at remote Western lakes,  
Where he takes our members, his mates  
He casts a long line, with flies much better than mine  
Ashley's one of the fly fishing greats

### Application for membership

The Committee has received the following nomination.

Applicant	Guy Nicholson
Nominator	Peter Murphy
Secunder	Doug Miller

## The Fishing Trip

Four blokes spend weeks planning the perfect camping and fishing trip to the western lakes. Two days before they are due to leave, Dave's wife puts her foot down and tells him he's not going. His mates are naturally annoyed that he can't go, but they decide to go ahead without him. Two days later the three arrive at the remote camp site to find Dave sitting there with a tent set up, firewood gathered, beer open and fish cooking on the fire.

John: "How long you been here? How did you talk your wife into letting you go?"

Dave: "I've been here since last night. Yesterday

afternoon I was sitting in my chair and my wife came up behind me and put her hands over my eyes and said 'guess who?'

I pulled her hands off and she was wearing a brand new see-through nightie.

She took my hand and took me to our bedroom. The room had two dozen candles and rose petals everywhere. On the bed were handcuffs and ropes! She told me to cuff her and tie her to the bed, so I did.' Then she said: 'Do whatever you want.'

So here I am".

The situation above may not have arisen had Dave been aware this piece of legislation (right) and the accompanying advice provided by Luci Wilkins:

*"This may be of assistance if anyone encounters difficulty obtaining permission from a significant other to redeem some frequent fishing points at any time.*

*As a matter of statutory interpretation, the section probably shifts the onus of proof to the person preventing, hindering or obstructing - so that it is incumbent upon them to prove the "reasonableness" of their actions.*

*Mr Gates agrees with me, however, we take no responsibility, whether jointly or severally, for any domestic repercussions."*



**tasmanian legislation**  
TASMANIA'S CONSOLIDATED LEGISLATION ONLINE

Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995 (No. 25 of 1995)

**256. Interfering with fishing**

A person, without reasonable excuse, must not –

- (a) prevent a person from lawfully fishing; or
- (b) hinder or obstruct any person who is lawfully fishing.

Penalty:

Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units.



## Fly Tying Weekend at 'Tiger Hut' Liawenee May 2010

The last weekend in May has become the Club's fly tying weekend and this year was no exception. As for the last few years the venue was the Tiger hut at Liawenee. The hut was so named as it was used to house the members of the last hunt for the Tasmanian Tiger and at the end of the ill-fated hunt transported to Liawenee where it has been significantly improved by Parks and Wildlife and now provides good accommodation for our weekend.



The weekend now begins early Friday afternoon with members keen to arrive early and setup their tying gear before the roads become icy. This year the weather was kind with light drizzle during Friday and Saturday which helped keep the temperatures well above zero. This was in contrast to the Inland Fisheries open day at Liawenee the previous weekend when the temperature dropped to -10 degrees centigrade on the Friday night which was I understand the second coldest May day on record Liawenee



It was very pleasing to have practically a full house for the weekend with 13 members and one

potential member attending. There is no formal agenda for the weekend with members tying their favorite patterns for the coming season. It was interesting to note the changes in patterns being tied with small CDC flies for the wind lane feeders in the Dee and Clousers for barramundi in the Northern Territory featuring prominently.



This year there were not a lot of new products but one of interest to members keen to tie small dry flies is the 12/0 thread from Spirit River. Ashley brought along samples for all members attending the weekend and as the diameter is half that of 8/0 thread I can ascertain that it certainly does makes tying the small midge and CDC patterns significantly easier and hopefully it will be available though our local suppliers shortly. Also thanks to Noel Wilson for sending along a large box of predominantly mink off cuts which were gratefully received.



The evening meals are always a highlight and this year was no exception with Friday night

commencing with oysters followed by a variety of casseroles and concluding with blackcurrant pie and cream.



Saturday night started with sashimi blue-fin tuna and assorted nibbles followed by meat off the spit and roast vegetables prepared in a camp oven around an open fire followed by apple pie and cream. As usual the wines were of excellent quality.



Sunday morning began as usual but a major power outage brought tying to a halt due to lack of lights. The unexpected consequence of lack of power was the lack of water as without the pump we could not access the tank! However, we obtained an alternative water supply and the power returned just before we lit the barby for lunch.

Finally a big thanks to all those who helped make the weekend a success and I look forward to our weekend at the end of May next year

Lyndon Cubbins

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## **‘The Patrons’ Shack Working Bee July 10**

Lyndon Cubbins, Andrew Blackwood, John Spencer, Mark Rampant, Craig Granquist, David Hemmings, and Pete Murphy attended. The tank was drained overnight and removed early Saturday morning.



A talented band of carpenters rebuilt the deck with treated timber and leveled it after discovering that the steel base was sloping distinctly towards Bothwell. An overflow was

fitted before the tank was repositioned.



The inlet was attached to the top of the tank with a saddle to replace the ingeniously constructed pile of bricks and scraps of wood used before. While this was being done the roofing plumbers re-sealed the collar around the wood-heater flue.



Hopefully this will stop the leak. The guttering was unclipped and cleaned, and a downpipe fitted at the rear to take excess water away from the shack.

The club's plasterer, Mark, repaired the damage to the toilet wall which was done during the recent break-in.



He also cut away the water damaged plaster above the wood-heater. This will be replaced when we are sure the leak has been fixed. David the painter showed his cutting-in skills (not the ones he uses as a guide) and, with some assistance from others who occasionally felt guilty as spectators, completed the first coat of the main room.

Tussocks close to the shack were grubbed out, the wood shed cleaned out, and the keepers on both external doors re-attached with longer screws.

It is a lovely shack in a beautiful setting, so if you feel like a weekend away, it is now in good condition and ready for use. Oh, and while you are there would you please apply a second coat of paint?

## A Bit Of Culture for you



Information: Stephen Martin Ph  
0429 795 979 email:  
[martin@virtuositas.org.au](mailto:martin@virtuositas.org.au)

Schubert's celebrated "Trout" quintet, recently voted number one in ABC's Classic FM Top 100 Chamber Music, will be the featured work in Virtuosi Tasmania's August concerts.

Schubert is perhaps most famous for his Chamber Music and Songs, in fact Schubert's chamber music occupied the first 3 places in the survey. The Quintet acquired the title because the composer used the melody from his song "The Trout" as the theme for the Air and Variations movement of the work.

Vekram Seth's novel "An Equal Music" made the "Trout" even more popular in recent years as the piece is a key part of the book, which the Daily Telegraph proclaimed as "The finest novel about music ever written in English."

Virtuosi Tasmania will perform the "Trout" in their regular, beautiful southern venue, Meadowbank Estate. A new venue is "The Priory" a fabulously restored mansion in Bothwell. Luxury accommodation is available at "The Priory"

In the North the ensemble will return to Jessie Vonk's wonderful purpose-built chamber music room in Spreyton, now called the "Hans Vonk Music House" in memory of her late husband, the highly regarded Dutch conductor. The tour will finish at another new venue, the historic Fitzpatrick's Inn in Westbury.

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	11am	Meadowbank Estate	Cambridge
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	5pm	The Priory	Bothwell
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1pm	Hans Vonk Music House	Spreyton
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	5pm	Fitzpatrick Inn	Westbury

### **AGM August 16th**

**Nominations for the committee are needed and should be forwarded to the Secretary.**

**Nomination forms can be downloaded from 'Forms' section of the website.**

Wanted

Public Notice

Vice

Warning: This might upset  
Some members

**Editions 1,2,3 of fly life for Heather Noga to make Mothers set complete  
Contact Heather on  
(03) 6225 2198**

**For payments to the club**

**Due to the opening of the trout season members should be thinking about fish and flies not smutty vice.**

**Articles, stories, feed back, letters to the editor profiles, anything of interest to members for vice Contact John Smith [nib1943@iinet.net.au](mailto:nib1943@iinet.net.au).**

BSB: 807 007  
Account No: 12130456  
Name: Tasmanian Fly Tyers Club Inc  
Then email the details to Tim Munro  
[tim@theatreroyal.com.au](mailto:tim@theatreroyal.com.au)

**MEMBERS INTERESTED IN NZ TRIP  
Contact John Smith [nib1943@iinet.net.au](mailto:nib1943@iinet.net.au)**

**To Let not for sale**



Located near Interlaken this magnificent shack is available for \$5 per member per night Just referbished.

**Still  
For Sale**

**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.

John Smith [nib1943@iinet.net.au](mailto:nib1943@iinet.net.au). Ph 62445649



**Community Notice**

**Your committee**

President Dave Hemmings  
PH (03) 6224 4006

Vice President Peter Trott  
(shack man) (03) 6244 7009

Secretary Peter Murphy  
Ph (03) 6243 0288

Treasurer Tim Munro

**Committee Members**

Malcolme Cross  
John Spencer  
John Smith

Please contact with any suggestions