

The Vice

Newsletter of Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

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Volume 8, Issue 4





G'day fellow poets.

Those of you familiar with that wonderful fly fishing identity Mel Kreiger will recognize his description of fly casters as poets. It's well worth seeking out his wonderful teaching methods to improve your casting. Well, Bruce Barker and I are still casting in the park, reading about casting and watching casting on Youtube, all research for our exam next year. Poetry in motion!

Meanwhile, the more intelligent club members are having a great time catching fish at Woods, the Pine and Penstock to name a few.

The John Fowler Challenge is off and running and I'm starting to hear some reports of good days. I'm still excited by this new development and am so pleased that members have got behind the idea. Even those who were reluctant have thrown their hat in the ring to support the concept. Good on you.

Recently, I was asked when was the best time to come to Tasmania to fish. I reckon the month of December and close to Christmas week is prime time and look forward to getting away from the madding crowd with mates from the FlyTyers. I hope to see you on a lake or river soon.

Finally, I have to mention that Four Springs in the north of the state is an outstanding fishery and is well worth a trip before Christmas, perhaps to the Huntsman as well. Get stuck into em!

David

Spring Edition, November 2010

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Noel McEvoy

It was with sadness that we learned of Noel's death earlier this year. Many of us remember fishing with Noel back in the good old days of the lagoon of Islands and Lake Sorell. Noel was a fine fly fisher and a good fly tyer. He was a good club member and served on the committee including a spell as treasurer for three years in the 70's." Irish" will be remembered as a friend by many with a cheerful personality and a keen sense of humor; a great bloke to be with, both on and off the water. However on occasions he kept one up a bit late.

Our thoughts are with the family. Rest in peace Noel where the dun hatches last much longer with large fish on a regular beat.

Suggest a Caption

John Spencer won the \$30. There were only 2 entries - bit poor really.



"Spencer, stay away from my fly box or else".



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.

Editorial

Editorial

It was great to see a good response to the John Fowler Trophy event. The event is designed to enhance communication and friendship between members. Sharing of skills and knowledge, getting to know other members better, can only lead to increasing the joy of being a member and finding a mate to fish with. I think we ended up with 28 and I expect a report from each team for the Vice! Guess the caption and guess the Lake have received very little interest despite the good chance of a \$30 voucher from the fishing connection. **ONE MORE GO NOT SURE WHERE TO THEN**.

Congratulations to our president "Wet Fly Dave" who won the State wet fly casting championship He is keen to get a team together to capture the trophy next year.

Tony Dell just got the equivalent of a golf albatross by hooking and landing two fish at a time while fishing with Macca at Woods Lake. Just short of a hole in one; he was using 3 flys!

JTS Editor

Suggest a caption for \$30



"Have a go now"

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

Snowy Range Day

The day seemed to go OK, with 63 people attending and a reasonable smattering of children eager to catch fish, often their first.

Everyone fishing caught fish and some improved on their PB (Personal Best) or BFE (Biggest Fish Ever).

Bob Cleary, the joint owner of Snowy Range certainly helped to make the day a success, firstly by opening the fishery just for us, (it's been closed for 2 years now) and just prior to the day Bob and I released over 800 fish into the ponds with a reasonable number of rainbows over 10 lbs. Bob also built a new fireplace and supplied wood for the



Even though Bob did not ask for a fee we gave him 3 cases of good wine as thanks for his generosity. He is considering the future of the recreational fishery and there may well be opportunities for the club to initiate some activities and help with future development as well as conducting family fishing days. There is scope for some additional visits such as a retirees mid week fish, extra family days. We could also be involved in running some events for the wider community such as take a kid fishing days or learn to fly fish days. If you are interested let me know. I have upgraded my email account in anticipation of your response.

Club members are helping a group of 12 Karen (ethnic Burmese/Thia) students to test there skills at catching and eating fish at Snowy Range.





Alex Munro with a Snowy Fish

Coming EventsPenstock weekend 3rd to 5th NovemberMark AspinallChristmas Drinks 20th December Lenah Valley
RSL
David HemmingsDavid HemmingsShark Fishing great lake 22nd 23rd January
Bruce BarkerDeadline Vice 17th January
John Smith

A Fly from the Vice of Spencer

Scud Pattern

I found this interesting scud pattern in a magazine. NB. Have yet to try out this pattern, so don't know its fish catching ability, but it looks a good fly. **Hook**: Kamasan B100 size 10, 12, 14 **Tail**: Gray feathers **Body**: Any dubbing. I use possum, green or brown **Legs**: Pheasant rump aftershaft feather **Shell Back**: Scud-back, stretch back, body stretch. Colour green or brown **Rib**: Monofilament

Tying Method

- Tie on the tail of gray feather at the bend of the hook
- Tie in the ribbing at the base of the tail
- Tie in the shell back, again at the base of the tail
- Select an after shaft feather. (See picture)



• Tie in after shaft feather at base of tail laying out the back of the hook. Concave side up. (See picture)



- Dub on the body and wind up the hook shank to just short of the eye
- Lay after shaft feather over the dubbing and tie off at the eye. Ensure the feather is laid central on the hook, i.e. the stem of the feather is in the middle



- Lay the shell back over the top of the after shaft feather. Ensure the shell back forces the after shaft fibres down to the side of the fly so they look like legs. Tie off
- Wind the ribbing up the body in even turns. As winding wiggle through the after shaft feather so the ribbing passes through the fibres (legs).
- Whip-finish a small neat head

Picture of the completed fly



Malcom Crosse

Malcolm started fishing In Yorkshire when he was about 7. He was into coarse fishing and continued to use the same methods when he was expelled to the colonies in search of a dry healthier climate for his father. Another ten pound "Pom", who fortunately for us, and indeed the nation's fly fishers, chose Tasmania as a final destination.

Malcolm settled, in Port Augusta (can't get much drier than that), for 10 years, where he met Kaylene, the eldest child in a family of 8. A move to the Barossa valley in 1964 marked the start of a life long adventure in fly tying and fly fishing

"After a barren days fishing the River Light in South Australia, using coarse methods, I met a man with a long rod who had had success and he introduced me to the noble art. I started fly fishing in 1965 and joined South Australian Fly Fishers before being transferred to the "wilderness plain" charged with the task of maintaining communication between east and west. Here I made my own vice and taught myself the basics of fly tying from various books."



After receiving, a gift from Kaylene; David Scholes "Fly Fisher in Tasmania", I convinced her we should move to Tasmania in 1969 for two years to check the place out. Wow! Some 41 years later still under the spell and challenge of fly fishing.

I joined the Club in 1971 after completing Ray Longden's fly tying course and meeting Don Hammond. These two gentlemen paved the way for me to join.



Like many of us, the Fly Tyers' Club has been a very important part of my life not only to me but also to the whole family. There are many happy memories of wine bottling, Pig Roasts, Bream fishing trips and other club functions. Association with the members, not only on local field trips, but also on overseas trout fishing adventures hold many wonderful memories for me. I have also been fortunate to introduce new members to the organisation

Favourite flies, well I don't really have one, but favourite fly tying material would have to be possum fur. I find the material useful in many wets and drys and it is simple uncomplicated and effective.

Fish and fishing, again like a lot of us, I can talk about the big fish from places like Pedder, the Lagoon of Islands and other places where we all took double figure fish and held them all up to see. The 12 fish bag, taken home to be forced on family and friends. These days I am more inclined to let fish go and the hunt, the take of the fly, is more important than the size.

Changes in Club assets from the days of small places at The Pine, The Great Lake, the Dee, to what we have now, all hold memories of working bees, burglar alarm variations, and repairs. I believe these team efforts are an intergral part of our club and should continue as one way of building relationships and friendship between members.

My own shack at Penstock has seen many hosted field weekends over the years and members are always welcome at the door for a hot drink, when the Penstock is cold and they need a break. After 30 years the place is still work in progress.



Fly fishing has taken me to many waters all over the world and has allowed me to meet many like minded folk. One friend said to me "what other sport can there be where two strangers get into a boat to fish together for three hours and get out and end up as friends for life?"

That sums it up; it's the friends and friendships that the F.C.T and fly fishing mean most to me.

Well I need to add a bit to the notes Malcolm gave to me. He really is quite incredible in what he has done with club members and for the club.

Malcolm's top tip for fishing is the 4 Ps Presentation, Presentation On a memorable fishing trip with Don Hammond on passing Lake Crescent they noticed that the water was just about lapping the road so they removed the tinny from the trailer and lifted it over the fence to fish the marshes using large frog imitations. In no time Don had 4 large Crescent browns and Malcolm had none and suffering slightly! Don eventually told Malcolm the secret was to "splash the lure down heavily like a frog" so he did and it worked.

Another presentation event was when Don, Ray and Malcolm returned to the Great Lake shack (the old one), cold and miserable. A few drinks were in order to ease the pain which was quite severe requiring quite a number of repeat scripts. In those days there were girly magazines in shacks!! The boys saw a need to cheer the place up a bit and appropriate (or not) photos were extracted and stuck around the walls until the lads retired to bed happy and content. They left early next morning somewhat hazy and feeling they had improved presentation. The committee held different views near expulsion!!

Malcolm has and continues to contribute much to fly fishing, fly tying, competition fly fishing. Right now he is involved on the committee in organising the National Fly Fishing Championships and The Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships to be held in Tasmania 2010 and 2012 respectively. He has been involved in several National and International events as a competitor, team captain, organiser and fly tying judge at home and in several overseas countries including NZ and all of UK. Kaylene is an internationally recognised scoring official. He has been on winning teams at international level.

He has been involved in fishery politics and applied his passion to get projects implemented to improve the fishery. He has been a member of the IFAC. He compiled "Australia's Best trout Flies" and gratefully acknowledges the valuable contribution to this book by members of the Fly Tyers' Club. He recently rejoined the committee after "retiring" from extensive overseas communications consultancies in many countries No doubt he has tried the odd bit of fishing while on the job. He now has more contacts around the globe than the proposed Board Band Network and is happy to help others with contacts and advice. He has also organized trips to the Pacific after bone fish so we can share his experiences there. He has done more than his share for the club over the years and continues to do so. He is a man of action and always has one or two projects in progress: Building a magnificent stone cottage which he makes available to us, building a 36 foot steel boat with "Scrimmy, and the recent dual effort of building two wooden lock style English boats are examples. He also worked as a guide for Peter Hayes for four years. *Records show that Malcolm has been on the committee* 15 times in most positions including vice editor for 3 years. Perhaps it is time for a run at president to complete the set. He has a great CV for retirement and he knows how to catch fish although I get the feeling that, for Malcolm, friendship is more important than fish. Editor

If you ever feel at a loss, Just Ring up Malcolm Crosse, Go fishing its great and its best with a mate, If it's ok with the Boss. Presentation! presentation! presentation, That's Malcom's tip for the nation, For his work on fly fishing, that's his passionate Mission, This man deserves a citation

Tim Munro

Tim is a true blue Tasmanian born in Hobart, but spending time on farms including a family one down the Huon Valley. He started fishing at an early age and recalls catching blackfish in the Huon River, tasty and bony. In his late teens like some of us he started trout fishing with spinning rod in hand. Alex Headlam was a fishing companion and the two would fish at Sorell and Penstock. Tim told me he caught his first fish at Penstock soon after starting fly fishing but "it took me two years or so to catch the second one"! Like many of our members Tim had experience hunting rabbits and shooting possums, which no doubt honed his hunting instinct and an eye for trout. If you want a possum skun just ring Tim, he used to shoot up to 60 a night for skins to supplement his meagre earnings. That's a lot of emergers.

A start as a self taught fly tyer Tim did David O'Brien's adult education course in 1986 which was a great start, to be supplemented by Macca's winter fly tie ins and a crack at the tiger hut. Tim likes his flies to be a bit rough but they all look pretty good to me.

Favourite flies, "the fly that caught the last fish", in the early days Greenwell's Glory was popular along with Hardy's Favourite, which accounted for his first fish. Now a Red Tag ranks highly but Tim's fly box is quite extensive. "as full as John Smith's Waders".

Lake Sorell was a favourite water along with Penstock and the Pine. Tim has fished a lot of waters and did most of his early fishing from the shore. In recent years, with his new boat he is experiencing boat fishing techniques. Has not done much river fishing but is keen to do so.

His preference is for sight fishing, polaroiding for cruising fish along with tailers and dun fishing when the weather is right. "first see your fish then catch it"

Tim recalls catching three tailing fish in a row on the untouchable shore on the Pine as a magic moment. He enjoys watching others catch fish (oh yes!) especially those catching their first on a fly or a son's first fish.



Tim did a lot of fishing with David Young and surprisingly has never had any of his specially built 6# sage rods broken. On a trip to Woods Lake Tim found David huddled over a fire with his frozen private parts covered by a mere hanky. While putting his all into fish spotting Dave had climbed a tree with a limb too fine to support his meagre frame, the third swim as Tim recalls.

David young nominated Tim for the club in 2005 and Tim has willingly contributed to the running and on going development of the club. He has been on the committee as Treasurer for 3 years despite having a demanding job and family responsibilities.

I had the pleasure of a trip away with Tim, and got to know him a bit while serving on the committee. We had one great trip on Arthurs two years ago when the lake was low. We found a magic sand bank for polaroiding near shore with a healthy school of brown trout, flowing through like a large freight train, craving for red tags. Unfortunately it is now under several metres of water. Tim is a good mate to go fishing with and he can cook a bit. He helped me spot and catch fish on a recent trip which is indicative of a caring and unselfish person. Tim is an innovator and ideas man on committee as well as treasurer for the last 3 years. He is always willing to take on any case. He certainly gives his all to the club. Editor

You must go fishing with Tim His boat is great to get in On bright sunny days, his polaroiding pays He will show you fish fat or thin. Munro is full of ideas Red wine and fine food, cheers A new stove for the shack, new lights down the track Much trout fishing without any tears

Lyndon Cubbins

When and how started fly fishing?

I started fly fishing whilst still studying at university although it was an aspect of fishing that I always wanted to pursue probably influenced by reading David Scholes Fly Fishing in Tasmania and nothing has changed since!.

First Fish??

Although I caught a small number of trout spinning my first trout on the fly was from Little Pine Lagoon following quite a number of unsuccessful trips with Bill and Margaret Knight. Whilst I am not exactly sure of the year it was probably around 1970

Favourite fishing places??

The formative years of my fly fishing occurred in Lake Sorell commencing with the company of Ian Stokes and John Hughes with much of the fishing in the Kermodes marsh and then later on in the Robinsons marsh in the early mornings and evenings and in the lake proper during the day. In these early days it was nothing for the three of us to wade from Kermodes to Duck Bay 2 or 3 times in a single day. To this day I still have a preference for fishing the marshy fringes of lakes for fish foraging in the shallows. Unfortunately this type of fishing has become more and more difficult to obtain on a regular basis; however, if shore fishing is available then it is now taking preference to boat fishing. This has translated into fishing the nineteen lagoons with increasing success over the last few years particularly during December and January.

Favourite flies.?

In my early days I would not venture to Lake Sorell without a dozen Mrs Simpson's in my fly box but in recent years there has been a fundamental shift in patterns particularly my wet fly patterns. This was brought about by several trips culminating in a session on Great Lake off the shore when 3 fish swam past my galaxia imitation to take a stick caddis pattern on the dropper. Since then I have had considerable success with a straight forward stick caddis pattern in Woods and Little Pine. However, the one fly that has been the downfall of a considerable number of fish has been the Possum emerger. This fly is particularly successful in the nineteen lagoons and in Little Pine and Arthurs but as the hatch continues it becomes less successful as I suspect that the fish become concentrated on the adults mayflies to the exclusion of the emerging nymphs.



Memorable fishing experiences?

My first field weekend with the Club was to Lake Sorell in the company of Max Stokes was a memorable weekend. We all stayed at the accommodation house in a large bunk room as there was no shack accommodation around the lake in the late 70's. I have no recollection of the fishing but just after we all turned in there was a comment to the effect "well I can beat you at the fishing and beat you as the drinking" directed at one of the more colourful members of the club. This resulted in a recommencement of festivities and some 'megraines' in the morning.

Largest most memorable fish?

I have had only a few opportunities to catch trout of significant proportions. The first being at Lagoon of Islands during a club field weekend in the late 70's when I attempted to intercept a large brown feeding in amongst the strap weeds. I covered the fish with a nymph and waited for an indication of a take but by the time the boil reached the surface it was all too late. Another more recent experience is several years ago in Woods Lake when fishing off the shore I already had a 4.5 pounder in the bag when I hooked a much larger fish; for the next 5 minutes or so I thought that there was no way I could land this fish then it began to show signs of becoming tired and swam around me in circles. I took out my net and looked at the fish and there was no way that fish was going in the net then just as I was trying to work what to do next the hook pulled out and the fish swam straight towards me and then away – so much for my big fish!.

When Joined Club?

Precisely when I joined the club as a full member remains a mystery as I attended club meetings for some considerable time as a guest and then as a potential member when the club numbers were fixed. Despite that John Smith has reminded me that I was assistant secretary in 1976 therefore it is reasonable to assume that I was a full member before that time

Maybe the club records can set the record straight.



Cubbins, Stokes, and Hughes a snack at the shack



Cubby with a brown from 'the rocky shores'.

Who you usually fish with?

I normally fish with Ian Stokes and John Hughes and it was John during a mid-winter trip to the shack at the lakes who reminded us that we are approaching 40 years of fishing together.

I have had one memorable trip on Little Pine with Cubby; when I mounted his boat I noticed it was at least half full of water, "one way o keep your fish fresh I thought hopefully as I checked my life jacket" but Cubby started the boat and off we went with Cubby bailing away. "Just Knocked the bung out" he said calm and unflappable He then caught fish. I have also enjoyed a few shack visits and friendly hospitality at his shack and I have noticed that he usually manages to catch more than his fair share of fish.

Cubby does much for the club, he has put in a decade of service on the committee as Assistant Secretary (3), Treasurer (4), Vice President (1), and President (2). He regularly organizes the Tiger Hut weekend and has always been available for working bees even though he has his own shack. Editor

While with Cubby on Little Pine The boat full of water not wine With bailer in hand we left the fair land Cubby soon had fish on his line.

If you want to get something done Lyndon Cubbins could well be the one To arrange a fly tie for the pack, or put a new roof on shack Or just take you fishing; what fun.



Cubby focused on the vice

Footy Buggers

We arrived late Friday afternoon to the Tiger Hut weekend, the members had already ensconced themselves over vices, red wine and the occasional apple pie. The latest flies and techniques were on display and as a hopeful new member I assumed the position of a sponge watching and asking. It was with some reluctance, given the wine, the pie and watching of great fly tyers, that I retired to my own bench and began tying some flies.

I decided to start on some early season flies, the box was short of woolly buggers and whilst looking for inspiration for some colours I heard that Essendon had beaten the Western Bulldogs. Black and red are always good colours for trout flies, something about red and the contrast with black has always been a great fish catcher.

So a red and black Woolly bugger it was. The striped red and black looked impressive so given the football theme it was soon followed by yellow and brown, red and white, black and white, blue and white and soon I had most of the AFL teams covered so the FOOTY BUGGERS were born.

Member Aspinall made some remark about throwing rocks if I fished them so the challenge was set.

It was still football season and into the second week of the finals when an early season trip at Penstock was organised. The weatherman had decided that it was to be a wild and windy weekend which had turned the water a weak coffee colour not conducive to fishing success.

Given the conditions, big and ugly flies had as much chance as any. So it was time to pull out the footy buggers. To add some spice to the equation I decided to team them up in pairs based on the final series - if an octopus can predict the world cup then why not let the trout predict the AFL?

Given that we were in the second week of the finals it was decided to warm up the fish with some completed matches to test their ability. Being a Hawthorn supporter first up had to be Hawks vs Fremantle. Even though my beloved Hawks had lost I decided to try and reverse the result and used a gold beaded Hawks fly vs the Fremantle fly. Much to my chagrin a fish launched itsself at the Freo fly at the boat, only my ineptitude and shock at seeing it swim straight past the Hawk fly meant it was soon free.

Time for the next match so on went the Swans vs Blues flies. Now this was an interesting match. The flies were swapped repeatedly from dropper to point and I had many hits but no take. Aspro and Murray, who had had no luck in the other boat, pulled along



side just as a plump 4lb brown took hold of the Swans fly and was promptly boated and photographed by Murray.

The wise Penstock trout had picked the completed matches correctly so it was time to test them on the upcoming matches. First up Saints vs Bulldogs and within two casts the contest was over with a nice 2lb rainbow latching onto the Saints footy bugger. So the trout had predicted that the Saints were into the Grand Final. Given the lateness of the day and the beckoning red wine it was decided to complete the "matches" the next day.

Sunday morning and the wind had picked up but there was still the semi final and final to go so on went the Collingwood vs Geelong Buggers. The fish obviously were not happy with this match up as for two hours they would not decide a winner. The flies had been swapped from dropper to point on 4 occasions and a draw was about to be called. Then a ray of sunshine hit the water to allow a polarioded fish to be seen swimming up fast towards the boat - it was mesmerized by one of the flies and likewise I to it, I stopped the fly, it stopped, I sped up the flies, it sped up, then finally at the boat it saw me looking at it looking at the fly and off it swam. The fly it had followed was the Collingwood fly.



So the trout had predicted a Saints vs Collingwood final.

The wind had picked up and there was little time to fish the grand final so on went the black and white footy bugger followed by the red black and white. I had changed the flies from point to dropper four times and the boat had drifted almost back to the shack shore. I was as about to call it quits and a draw (yeah right as if you could have a draw in the grand final) when suddenly a fish slashed at the point fly right on the bank - it was close but missed. Given that it was now blowing a gale and time to get off the water it was decided to call it to the point fly which was the Saints footy bugger!



History will show that the fish got the final wrong but gee they were close....

Footy season over its cricket season all white flies ? Oh well, how about the colours in The One Day Internationals - yes I call them ODIs....red, blue and white, green and gold, now does anyone know the Sri Lankan colors.

Stephen Butler



How did Pete Murphy get this in the shack by himself???

Wanted

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

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

MEMBERS INTERESTED IN NZ TRIP Contact John Smith <u>nib1943@iinet.net.au</u>

Public Notice

Vice Warning: This might upset Some members

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 I asked Prince Charles why he wore a Davy Crocket Hat when he visited Queenstown.

PC: I asked Mummy "which hat should I wear?"Q: "Where are you going"PC "Queenstown"Q: "Where the fooks that"PC "So I did"

| Public Notice | Still | Community Notice |
|--|---|---|
| | For Sale | |
| | Fly fishing Boat | Your Committee |
| Tasmania Tasmania Enforce the postbolither | Stessel Edge Tracker 3.75m dingy with 18 HP TOHATSU Motor Excellent Trailer. Electric Outboard with dual cycle battery charged by motor n \$4,000. | President Dave Hemmings PH (03) 6224 4006 Vice President John Smith PH (03) 6244 7009 |
| 256. Interfering with fishing | John Smith <u>nib1943@iinet.net.au</u> . | |
| 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. | Ph 62445649 | Secretary Peter Murphy Ph (03) 6243 0288 Treasurer Tim Munro PH 0419 510 827 Committee Members Malcolm Crosse John Spencer John Smith Peter Trott (shack man) |
| | Electric Outboard for Sale Transom mount 55lb thrust (freshwater) Minn Kota electric motor. Good nick, spare prop. 5 years old. All up - \$200 Contact Brian West | Please contact with any suggestions |