

The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.'

PO Box 460, Launceston 7250



www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Patron: Professor Nigel Forteath

President: : Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger 0407 546 069

Secretary: Mr. Richard Hawley: 0429 888 687

Treasurer: Mr. Peter Hazelwood 0418 132 231

Immediate Past President: Mr. Corey Harris

Email Club and Newsletter: secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Email President: pres@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Email Treasurer: treasurer@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Email Editor : burgessmichael@y7mail.com

Your Committee:

Peter Berne (Snr Vice President), Martin Hingston (Vice President), Graeme Frankcombe,
Lyndon Haines, Jack Barker, John Quarry, Sean Pridmore.

FFCT Newsletter: September 2019

September 4th General Meeting:

7:30pm 4th September 2019

1-3 Chant Street, East Launceston

Committee Meeting:

7:30pm 11th September 2019

Social Gathering/Fly Tying

1-3 Chant Street, East Launceston



President's Annual Report August 2019

When preparing to begin writing this report I spent a bit of time reading last years report and reflecting upon how our ambitions and expectations matched up with what actually occurred. It made interesting reading, but of course none of us had any way of knowing just what a challenging year it was to prove to be.

As expected the Members quickly settled into our new clubrooms and within a short period of time almost everyone began to feel comfortable. It is certainly much easier to hear our guest speakers these days and having our library on hand is a delight. It is also good to finally have a place to display our historic memorabilia and to have our Honour Boards mounted for all to see. As time goes by I believe these Clubrooms will continue to improve for us.

The one thing few of us expected, was the intensity and scale of last season's bush fire period. There is little point in rehashing all of the events which proved so challenging for us in this report, but it was a very close run thing indeed. Both of our highland properties came under serious threat from the fire conditions and it was only by some prompt action and at considerable expense, that so many valued highland properties were protected. We owe a lot of thanks to the Tas Fire Service and the other services for their level of commitment.

Perhaps the most significant occurrence this year was the building project we have had underway at our Penstock Lagoon property. This ambitious project began its planning stages well before my own involvement with the club took place. Work began in earnest just after the start of the new year. We managed to get the concrete slab poured and finished just hours before a rain event and only a few days prior to the fire outbreaks which stopped all works at, or indeed access to the site, for about three weeks. Once we regained our access we quickly got to the crux of the project which was the demolition of the existing roof structure and the establishment of a new structure encompassing all of the new floor areas. Once that was completed we worked every week bringing all of the details together into a comfortable and much better facility for our Members to enjoy. There have been some mighty big days put in at Koongara this year but the results are simply outstanding. Thanks so much to all of the members who helped along the way. While there are still outstanding tasks remaining to be completed we are well placed to finalise those details during the course of the coming summer season. Personally I am greatly looking forward to some more working days up there. The teamwork and

comradeship involved in this project has been remarkable and completely enjoyable from my perspective. Thanks again.

To conclude this report I must certainly thank the Executive Committee for their well considered guidance through the year and to the Members for their overall support. Perhaps the most beneficial contribution we can all make at this stage, is to simply enjoy our improved facilities and to always enjoy one another's company. Preferably while fishing...

Tight Lines everyone and travel safely.

Jimmy Ellenberger President- Fly Fishers Club of Tasmania

Minutes of General Meeting held at Chant Street on Wednesday the 7th of August 2019

MEETING OPENED: 7:30 pm.

Welcome:

President Jimmy Ellenberger welcomed the 22 members, guest speaker and guest to the August meeting and recommended that all mobile devices be turned off, or on to silent.

Apologies:

Gary & Katie Baird, Brian Mattschoss, Gary Long, Peter Ray, Peter Berne, Ian Town, Chris Crawford, Tom Seppala, Rod Lee, Rod Clarkson, James Doherty, Graeme Frankcombe, Ross Frankcombe, Lyndon Haines, Maurice Hendley

Names of Guests:

Ian Harrison

Guest Speaker:

The President introduced our patron Professor Nigel Forteach whose topic tonight will be the trout's diet at Four Springs.

Nigel's well-prepared slide show of invertebrates in Four Springs included the 'tadpole snail', 'gammarids, or shrimp', 'micronecta' and 'water boatmen'.

There are many types of caddis present and Nigel will undertake a study on them this year.

The list of mayflies present include the 'cloeon tasmaniae', 'caenids' and the 'atalophlebia australis'.

The last mayfly is found all over the lake and changes from a brownish spinner to a red spinner in a few hours. Their life extent could extend to a week – depending on the weather.

The last item on the list was the dragonflies and to date Nigel has found 17

different species at Four Springs. The nymphal stages for each type are varied in size, shape and colour depending on the adult form. Their flying speed can reach up to 45-50 kph.

The President led the members in expressing their appreciation to Nigel for his amazing and comprehensive presentation.

Appreciation:

Appreciation was extended to:

- Bill Greensmith for leading the winter fly casting sessions;
- Graeme Frankcombe for installing the new window over the kitchen sink at Koongara.

Minutes of last meeting:

The Secretary moved that the minutes appearing in the last newsletter was a representative record of the last meeting, seconded by Martin Hingston **and carried.**

Matters arising:

Nil

New Member:

The President welcomed our newest member (#460) Ian Harrison. We trust that his association with us will bring many years of enjoyable friendship and fishing.

Correspondence (since last meeting):

Outwards:

1. 44 members – (email) Request for membership renewal.
2. 3 members – Request for membership renewal.
3. Nigel Forteath – (email) Appreciation for Club Patron role and invitation to continue; and guest speaker reminder.
4. Alan Styles – (email) Appreciation for Club Auditor role and invitation to continue.

Inwards:

1. VFFA – (email) Club newsletters.
2. TFTC – (email) Club newsletter.
3. GFFC – (email) Club newsletter.
4. Corey Harris – (email) Community Information day on St Patricks Plain wind farm.
5. Chris Morris and Simon Bland – Resignation from Club.
6. Poatina Chalet – (email) Accommodation available over the WFFC.
7. IFS – (email) Notification of errors in the new fishing code.

8. IFS & AAT – (email) Caution notice of fish in lower North Ask River (dnst of Cora Linn).
9. IFS & AAT – (email) Tagged fish and what to do if you catch one.
10. AAT - (email) Community Information day on St Patricks Plain wind farm.
11. Paul Brougham – (email) Liability insurance renewal.
12. Central Highlands Council – Rates notice for Noonamena.
13. Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees – Statement of Account to 30th June.
14. Geoff Cox, Colin Nye – Membership payment.
15. Marc Reygaert – (email) Notice of next Rise Fly Fishing Film (03/09).
16. Becks – (email) Monthly invoice.
17. Stephen Williams, Peter Donati – Membership payment.
18. Nigel Forteath – (email) Will continue as Club Patron.
19. Alan Styles – (email) Will continue as Club Auditor.
20. Mike Stevens – Tasmanian Fishing and Boating newspaper (Issue 138).
21. Ian Ferrier & Jeremy Ranicar – (email) Report from meeting on St Patricks Plain wind farm.

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and outward be approved and seconded by John Quarry **and carried**.

Matters arising:

Inwards 21 will be discussed in general business.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses: \$ 827.70 (Koongara)

Income: \$ 1,501.00

TPT: \$ 1,021.99

CBA: \$ 4,145.42

The Treasurer, moved the Treasurer's Report for acceptance, seconded by John Stagg **and carried**.

Matters arising:

The Club financials are becoming very tight, with still some memberships to renew and the major bills (rates and insurances) starting to roll in.

The President encouraged members to start using the shacks to add extra funds in the kitty.

The Noonamena Council rates charges this year was \$783.34.

The rental charges for shack usage was disclosed to the members.

General Business:

Chairman's Lead:

Club Fund Raising:

The Fly bowl with flies at \$1 per fly is a great bargain.

The members were informed of these recent motions (moved by the treasurer) passed at the last committee meeting.

- *The Club change the current account at the Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees to an 'at call account' and transfer all the current funds.* Seconded by Jack Barker **and carried.**
- *The current account at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia be closed on the 1st of November, with all funds being transferred to the Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees 'at call account'.* Seconded by Lyndon Haines **and carried.**

The current banking charges and interest received (CBA vs TPT) were the reasons that the committee decided to cancel the CBA account and transfer to the TPT.

Our constitution currently states that we only draw monies by 'counter signed cheques' this will still happen with the TPT.

There will no doubt (in the future) be a change to the constitution to allow for payments to be made by direct debit.

Club Outings / Working Bees:

Koongara:

This is still a work in progress with the electrics, plumbing, veranda lining and external covering still to be completed. The building is secure with some working plumbing, including the toilet.

The external works are planned to begin in the warmer months.

Christmas in Winter:

Providing that the weather is acceptable this outing will be held at Noonamena, on the 4th July 2020.

Confirmations are required, so get in early.

Noonamena:

It appears that a wombat has now taken up residence under the back porch.

Fly Tying Challenge:

As discussed at the last meeting, members will tie 3 flies (nominally) and will be judged on their skills. New member Rod Clarkson (to be confirmed) may be the judge and this will happen over the winter

months. We now need some confirmed fly tyers.

St Patrick Plain Wind Farm:

The President discussed the proposed wind farm that will stretch from the Waddamana & Poatina Roads all the way down to Blackburn Creek (past the Steppes).

A community information day was held at the Steppes Hall where any concerns could be raised by the public. The members present were asked for their direction as to whether the Club should express their collective concerns to EPURON on this project.

Following a healthy discussion, it was decided that the Club would take no stance against the proposed wind farm.

Committee nominations:

A reminder that our AGM is next month, and any member that wishes to take more interest on how the Club operates – it is time to nominate.

Any member that is interested, but undecided, are welcome to attend the last (or any) committee meeting as a guest before making their decision.

Fishing Reports (Members):

To include flies, conditions and different methods.

Other General Business:

In lieu of the cancelled Christmas in winter will the Club have a dinner for all members. This will be addressed at the next committee meeting.

The Club, at present does not have a policy regarding boats moored on the shoreline at Penstock.

Club Raffles:

The Club raffle (gift voucher) was drawn by our newest member Ian Harrison and won by Andrew Grubert.

Next Meeting:

AGM

Meeting Closed: 9:12 pm

My early days, from old Jacks corner.

Well now, I and many others were born at the time of the great depression of 1929. We grew up, through these hard times, no money, much unemployment, backyard gardens, wood stoves, no bed sheets, wooden washing troughs, copper boilers, hand wringers, Velvet soap, chook houses, pearl barley soup, scarlet runner beans, rabbit, and wallaby stews, braised brain with breadcrumbs, tripe and onions, lambs fry and onions, sausages, saveloys, mutton birds, fish, Christmas turkey, Easter goose, bread and milk breakfasts, jonny cakes, steamed puddings, plum duff and an assortment of breads.

Our parents were experts at preserving fruit and vegetables from the garden in the good old Fowler's bottling outfits. We were told to bring home anything that would burn in the stove, we learnt to mend our own shoes, darn our socks, and dig the garden, mend bicycle tube punctures and split firewood.

We cut hedges and mowed lawns for pocket money, brought in and stacked firewood and cleaned out fireplaces and stoves. I went to a kindergarten at the age of five, learnt all about cord cursive, upper and lower-case alphabets, Norse Gods, and very basic mathematics. Next it was primary school at East Launceston, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, alliteration, composition, elocution, long division and multiplication in pounds, shillings, pence and half pence, simple and compound interest, percentages, ratios, and square roots were but a few of the things we learnt. After lunch each day the whole school sang the tables, from one times one to twelve times twelve.

I have had the measles, followed by a nasty radical mastoid in the right ear which left me permantly deaf. Because of this, I was never able to participate in field-games because I had no sense of direction.

Way back when I was still at school and had a bicycle, I had saved my pocket money and bought a split cane fishing rod from "The Cleavers" which was a hardware shop on the corner of Brisbane and Charles streets. I also bought one of those very nice English made little bronze and black Devon spinners, with double treble hooks at the rear and a treble hook on top and one underneath. From where I lived at Newstead in Launceston it was but a shortish ride out to the Distillery creek behind the Waverley woolen mills, here there was a gorge that extended up through the bush to the Waverley dam. In this gorge there were a few nice little natural pools, and it was here that I caught my first brown trout. It was about 1 lb. and needles to say I was hooked on fresh water fishing from then on.

I am now a widower, my little family are all grown up and have had their own children, so after all those years, I can now devote some of my spare time to fishing again. That wonderful experience has been with me for eighty years, and apart from sailing dinghies with the Port Dalrymple Yacht Club, participating in motor cycle club events, getting married, having a family, earning a living, enduring several bouts of sickness, I am stilled hooked.

I am now a member of a fly fishing club, based in Launceston, and am very much enjoying the company of the club members and participating in club events.

I was a late comer to the art of fly fishing, it is indeed a test of skill, but I am still hooked. My legs are not what they used to be, my balance is getting wobbly, my eyesight is not so good anymore, I feel the cold, I tire easily, I need a lot of sleep, but I am determined to keep going.

I have long wanted a shack up at the lakes, but time and circumstances have not permitted, so I happened to find an old Mitsubishi L300 van in a bomb yard out at the end of Foster street. Believe it or not I bought it on the bank card for \$990. They kindly delivered it for me to a friend's place at Newnham and I went home afterwards.

Next day I got a ride to town and after a quick inspection, I drove it home. It had seven months registration, four legal tires, a new windscreen and everything worked.

At home I got to work and over the next few weeks cleaned her up and did the conversion for camping.

At last after sixty-three years I had my lakeside shack, this time on wheels and with no council rates to pay and with the ability to go anywhere and spend the night.

I know it is a bit rough and getting old, but it is very easy for me to get in and out of and being forward control, a great pleasure to drive, almost as good as a motorcycle.

Coupled with this activity, I also have another life long hobby, photography, I have recorded eighty-five years of my activities and can look back and remember all the highlights of my life.

My family have never been wealthy, my parents, along with many others of their generation struggled through the depression years, raising two boys. I know what it is like to have to go without, never the less, the state gave me a very good education, in particular, the secondary school, here the old retired teachers were brought back into service because of the war. They opened up a whole new world for me, arithmetic, algebra, applied geometry, trigonometry,

English, poetry, ancient history, physics, chemistry, sheet metal work and woodwork.

I had to ride a bicycle to and from home and back twice a day for three years come rain, frost, hail, wind and heat. I learnt all about wet clay, loose gravel and tram lines, daffy pedestrians and blind car drivers.

Finding work was difficult, too many returning ex-service men being given preference, I had to take what I could get. I was too old, the wrong religion, too much education, but finally I found a job in a warehouse and never looked back.

After a while I had saved enough to buy my first motorcycle, an old 1929 BSA. What a machine, it taught me all about engines, mending Bowden cables, worn out chains and sprockets, but it also enabled me to go further out on fishing expeditions, it was a magic carpet. Long trips on the push bike were now mere hops compared with the motorbike.

Underwood, Deddington, Evandale, Longford, Perth, Hadspen, Deloraine, were now within easy reach, and I enjoyed the fishing at all these places. The old bike was replaced with a new WW 2 Army BSA, and much more reliable than that old one.

I met my old life-long friend George, and we had heard that the Hydro Electric Commission were planning to close the Shannon river below the Great Lake, and together one day we went up to see the Shannon rise. We left very early on a cold morning on the 'Speed Twin,' and went up on the lake highway through Golden Valley, we arrived at Miena and spent an enjoyable half day watching the famous rise. After that we went down through Interlaken towards Tunbridge, and half way down the tier we came upon a very large tree across the road, we had to lay the bike down and drag it under the tree. We came out onto the midlands highway and at about Ross we were both so tired that we parked the bike and had a sleep in the gutter. I will remember that day till I die.

The Great Lake, Arthurs, Sorrell, Toombs and Lake Leake were now easy trips.

Next came the desire to stay overnight at these places and others, so various methods of camping were tried.

At first, I used an army disposals hammock and sleeping bag, but it was too uncomfortable, next came a small tent, but all that was getting too bulky for carrying on the bike.

Well, a car was out of my financial reach, so it had to be a sidecar on the bike. The sidecar chassis was fitted with an old packing case, 6 feet long, and 2 ½ foot wide and with 1 ½ foot high sides at the front and back and down the left side. The side next to the bike was made removable, to allow the base to become a bed.

There was a ridge pole and end supports, which were fitted when required. A tarpaulin was thrown over the whole lot, and this provided a satisfactory weather-proof roof.

A solo bike is ridden, but a bike and sidecar, needs to be driven, it is an acquired skill, not easily mastered after having once ridden a bike.

The roads those days were mostly unsealed away from the towns and in places very rough.

Many of us oldies have covered many, many miles back then, but we managed to get about at a reasonable cost.

That is a short summary of what it was like back then, we became masters in the art of make do, if you could not fix it yourself, you went without, so that is why us oldies managed a lot with so little.

Life today is a completely different story, I have outlined all about. camping in a previous little story, transport today is much, much better, roads that were once rough unsealed tracks are now super highways, and going fishing, is so easy, that, to me is unbelievable.

But there are also down sides, gone is the famous Shannon Rise, the wonderful early days of Penstock Lagoon, the old Great Lake before the dams, the carp invasion of Lake Sorrel, the pollution of our rivers by pesticides and artificial fertilizers, the topsoil run offs by wasteful agricultural methods and the invasion of cormorants.

The Hydro also does not help with the constant raising and lowering of water levels which expose delicate shore-lines containing fish habitats.

The old western lakes have also had their share of troubles, droughts, heavy rains, and vegetation loss caused by bushfires, wood chip logging and careless campers. All have contributed to the situation we find ourselves in today.

We must do our best to educate the public and government departments into conservation methods that we all hope will help, but I am afraid that it is too little too late.

The creation of artificial waters such as Brumby's Creek, Four Springs, Brushy Lagoon, Huntsman, Curries River and others have helped, a little, but we need something big, something especially for recreational fishers, who I feel sure would not mind an increase in license fees if such a venue became a reality.

Of course, much could be done to improve what we have already got, raised water levels, escape screens on spillways, tree plantings, artificial spawning beds in rivers and lakes, wind shelters, pollution cleanups, etc.

The proposed damming of the Tamar river near Newnham might create a large fresh water lake, which would eventually develop into a suitable fishery, but Launceston would need to clean up the sewerage problem first, we don't want a huge cesspool, giving off toxic vapors, and with filthy discolored water as at present.

Then there is the ever-increasing black cormorant population, I think that an

open season for a year or two, together with a head bounty would be the best way to go. Tourists fish and bring money into the State, cormorants eat the fish that the tourists come to catch, the government can't have it both ways.

So, my young friends, if I am spared for a few more years, I intend to enjoy many visits to the club's amenities at the Pine and Penstock, where I enjoy the companionship of members, and also the little visits to the clubrooms at Chant Street. I do have difficulty hearing the conversations of the others, but it is very nice for me to come and see you all. In passing, I must say that my fishing buddy, young John S has made it his business to look after me now that I do not have a driver's license any more. John and I go back a long way, and I am forever grateful for his wonderful support over the years.

Annual Subscriptions were due on the 1st July 2019

To continue as a member, please get yours settled at your earliest opportunity.

Annual Subscriptions are:

Ordinary Member

Junior Member (Under 18) & Full time Student

Eligible Pensioner (As defined by the Club Rules)

Amount

\$72

\$36

\$36

Members who have not paid their annual subscription by 17th August 2019 will be deemed un-financial, requiring payment of the \$30 joining fee as well as the subs rate (\$72) for membership. Payments to B.S.B.: 037-812 and Account No: 601 0462 38

Committee nomination form 2019/2020

I hereby nominate (please print)
as (position)

of The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc, for the year 2019/2020

Nominator (signature) Date/...../2019

Seconder (signature) Date/...../2019

I hereby accept nomination

Nominee (signature) Date/...../2019

Nominations for any of the above positions in the Club must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 10 days before the Annual General Meeting (Rule 24.1.b).

To clarify, your nomination must be in the hands of the Secretary no later than the 27th August 2019



Sean Pridmore installing the lights at Koongara and an old newspaper advertisement.



Camden creek brown trout caught on Parachute Coachman.



Quamby FlyFishers Club Annual Open Day

Date: Saturday 21st
September 2019

Where: Meander
Community Hall

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Entry by Gold Coin
Lunch Available By Do-
nation

Casting tuition
Fly tying
Entomology
Fish filleting and
Cleaning
Knots
Gear selection
Club information

Children and adults come along, enjoy the day and learn about fly fishing.

ENQUIRIES:

Eve Berne 0427 695 121

Mark Sutton 0409 647 966

Website- [meandervalleycommunitydirectory](http://meandervalleycommunitydirectory.com)

Shack Bookings

Contact: Ian Webb at WEBB'S HUNTING AND FISHING

Address- 18a Marlborough Street Longford
Phone-63712175 or 0466 620 177
Email- webbshuntingadfishing@gmail.com

When:

Bookings may be made, and keys obtained, by Club members only during business hours which are:

Monday – Friday (9:00 am. to 5.00 pm).

Saturday (9:00 am. to 2:00 pm).

Note: No bookings can be taken or keys made available outside these hours.

How:

All members, even if they hold keys, are required to book.

The booking must include:

How many are Club members.

How many are guests or non-members – **maximum of 3 per party.**

The gender of guests – **only if female.**

The duration of stay – **limited to 5 consecutive nights** (or by prior approval by committee)

Which shack required.

Payment:

2019 rates: **Day \$5.00** **Member: \$15.00** **Non-Member:**
\$25.00

Must be made:

At the next Club meeting or,

By EFT/post to the Treasurer within that month.

Note: Webb's Hunting And Fishing will not accept payments.

Key Return:

The keys, includes gate keys, must be returned immediately to Webb's Hunting And Fishing .

Cancellations:

The member must advise Webb's Hunting And Fishing at least 24 hours before the date of the booking, otherwise a cancellation fee may apply.

FFCT UPCOMING EVENTS & CLUB INFORMATION

FFCTas Season Events 2019

Contact the Secretary: **Richard Hawley**

secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

for all details and confirmations

- **General Meeting – 4 th September**
- **Committee & Social Night Meeting – 11th September**

Members please check your accounts with **Treasurer Peter Hazelwood** at: treasurer@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Payments and club banking: New Account Details

Account: The Fly-Fishers Club of Tasmania

BSB: 037-812

ACC: 601 0462 38

A message from Marc Reygaert: 2019 RISE Fly Fishing Film Festival

For GIN-CLEAR MEDIA

Hi,

In our 14th year now, we are bringing the

RISE Fly Fishing Film Festival to Launceston once again this September to the:

Village Cinema 165 Brisbane Street, Launceston

Tuesday, 3rd September 2019 Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm

It is a great way of getting all Fly Fishers together to enjoy some of the best Fly-Fishing films of the year.

You can download our press kit, which includes the press release and photos from the link below:

<https://www.flyfishingfilmfestival-au.com/press/>

Tickets are available online here: <https://app.etickets.to/buy/?e=17680>

Tickets should be available at the door but will be subject to availability.

We hope to see you at the Rise festival in September 2019

Thanks,

Marc Reygaert

For GIN-CLEAR MEDIA