



Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

Newsletter - December 2023

Coming Up

Next General Meeting:

7:30pm 6th December 2023

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

Next Committee Meeting:

7:00pm 13th December 2023

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

Social Night

This is our end of year get together. Come along and enjoy some nibbles, drinks, great company and maybe win some raffles. Bring plenty of change to support the Club.

There is no General Meeting in January.

Next Club Outings:

Lake Fergus "Fergus Foray" (25th & 26th November) - Refer NOV. NL.

Penstock Lagoon "One Fly" (9th December) - Refer Page 4

Little Pine Lagoon "Cane Day" (21st December) - Refer Page 6

Little Pine Lagoon "Pine Plunder" (27th December) - Refer Page 4

What a Difference a Fly Line Makes by ALLAN EKERT

I don't have a copy of Bruce's book (does anyone have a copy to sell?) but if you were to read the book you would learn a lot about fly lines that will help you understand the difference a fly line can make. The following information is not from Bruce's book, but I am sure it's close to what he has written. Understanding this background information on fly line terminology and taper is essential if you are going to get the most out of your fly rod and line.



Line tip: the front part of the line, equally thin over its length, where the leaders is attached. The tip was level so that when cutting off leaders with nail knots you didn't lose any of the taper of the fly line. These days the tip is often omitted and replaced with a welded loop.

Front Taper: The front taper is the section of the fly line that transitions from the thick belly to the fine tip. It helps control the energy transfer during casting, allows for delicate presentations, and provides smooth turnover of the leader and fly.

Belly: The belly is the thickest and heaviest part of the fly line. It carries most of the line's weight, providing the momentum required for casting larger flies or longer distances. The length and taper of the belly vary depending on the specific fly line design and purpose.

Rear Taper: The rear taper is the section of the fly line that transitions from the thick belly to the thinner running line. It helps control the transfer of energy during the casting stroke and ensures a smooth turnover from the belly to the running line.

Running Line: The running line is the thinner and more level section of the fly line that extends from the rear taper to the end of the line. It is designed to shoot through the guides smoothly during casting, allowing for longer distance casts.

Welded Loops: Many modern fly lines come with pre-welded loops at both ends. These loops provide convenient attachment points for leaders, tippet, or backing, eliminating the need for knots. Now that you have a handle on the terminology of fly lines you need to know

about their taper. The taper of a fly line refers to how the weight and diameter of the line are distributed along its length. In the days of horsehair and silk, fly lines were usually level as it was difficult to make complex tapers by weaving the natural materials together. Once plastics came into the equation, level lines lost their popularity as complex tapers were able to be made when extruding the coating. Level lines are almost impossible to find today except as running lines for shooting heads.



There are five common tapers that you will find available today. Each one is different. The taper affects how the line loads the rod, how it shoots through the guides, and how it delivers the fly to the target. Selecting an appropriate taper can make a world of difference to how a rod casts and fishes. Our casting group quickly discovered what a difference a taper can make.

Here are the five common tapers but within each category there are many variations as can be seen by the variety of fly lines produced by many fly line companies.

Weight Forward (WF): This is the most popular taper for fly lines. The weight is concentrated in the front section of the line, making it easier to cast long distances and control larger flies. The front taper, belly, and rear taper are all designed to facilitate smooth casting and accuracy.



Double Taper (DT): In a double taper line, both ends of the line taper gradually towards the middle. This allows for delicate presentations and better control at shorter distances. DT lines can be reversed when one end gets worn out, effectively doubling the lifespan of the line.



Continued in the January newsletter.



Club Outings

The Contact coordinator for all Club Outings is now Graeme Frankcombe

Email: graemef59@bigpond.com ; Phone 0458 421 909

- **Lake Fergus** : (25th & 26th November) Details in NOVEMBER Newsletter.
- **Penstock Lagoon** : (9th December) "One Fly"

Our annual event at Penstock Lagoon where each member will nominate their fly to catch a special trout. The angler closest to the nominated size wins on the day. A nominal charge of \$5 "day rate cover" is all that is required. Confirmations are required to the Secretary by the 27th of November. Martin Hingston is the coordinator.

- **Little Pine Lagoon** : (21st January) "Cane Day" Refer Page 6
- **Little Pine Lagoon** : (27st January) "Pine Plunder" Refer this page

Club Outing - Little Pine Lagoon

Our annual event the "Pine Plunder" will be taking place soon. This time we will be incorporating fly casting sessions to enhance existing members fishing armory as well as introducing potential members to the art of casting to some fish.

Members are encouraged to bring along their guests, whether they are experienced fly fishers or novices - all are welcome.

DATE:	27th January
TIME:	9:00 am.
LOCATION POINT:	NOONAMENA
CONTACT:	Graeme Frankcombe (0458 421 909)

There is a perpetual trophy handed to the most successful angler on the day.

Members will be available to meet the potential members throughout the weekend to introduce them to the art of fly fishing.

The event ends at **5:30pm**, where the events of the day are discussed over a cool drink and a barbeque – BYO.

Confirmations are to be received by the **7th** January.

President's Report

Hello Members.

Firstly, I would like to remind members to please follow the procedures for entering and leaving the club shacks (especially leaving).

On a recent visit to Noonamena I arrived to find the blinds all open, the drain taps closed, gas still turned on and the water turned on at the tank.

I assumed that there was another member there, but no the shack was empty. There are clear instructions for what needs to be done when entering and leaving the club shacks.

If in doubt!! Please ask a committee member or the shack wardens.

Graeme Frankcombe has been busy building new ladders and will be shortly modifying the bunks at Koongara to make them full size.

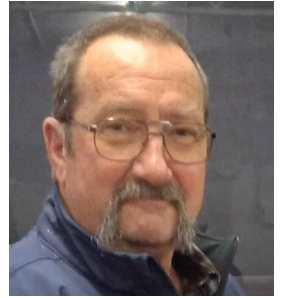
New mattresses have been purchased. These works will be carried out soon, a big thanks must go to Graeme and his able offsider Jimmy Ellenberger.

Our next meeting is a social night, with numerous raffles to be won, including a 6 wt. fly rod, books, fly's and flying materials and a bottle of wine. Come along with your loose change and enjoy the night.

There will be some nibbles and drinks supplied. You are welcome to bring a small plate to share if you wish.

On a more serious note, Jimmy Ellenberger is having some medical issues, and we wish him well and hope for a speedy recovery and hope to see him out and about soon.

Martin Hingston. President FFCT.



MERRY CHRISTMAS 

Cane Day on the Pine

Are you keen to get out your old or new cane rod and fish Little Pine for a Day in January?

Sunday 21st January 2024

The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania has been reviving an old tradition of fishing with cane rods on Little Pine. Last year we were supported with participants coming from around the state and mainland. Some individuals came along with no club affiliations, others from the Tasmanian Fly Tiers and our club, The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania.

On Sunday, January 21, 2024 we will host another day. The day will start at 10.00am and conclude at 4.30.

On the day, please register at the Fly Fishers' Club shack, Noonamena at Little Pine by 9.30am

A BBQ will follow at the club shack with the presentation of a bottle of Whisky to the angler with the lucky participation number.

Dress up in your old tweeds and deer stalkers if you wish or your normal gear.

Club members, friends of club members and anglers from other clubs and keen fly fishers are warmly welcome.

A charge of \$20.00 for entry will be made to help with catering and this year we will donate to **Women's Breast Cancer** through **Casting for Recovery**.

If interested or attending please contact

Chris Crawford at clcrawford@netspace.net.au or

Graeme Frankcombe, via email at secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

A week before event for catering purposes.

We would love you to come along, compare cane rods and fish.

Look forward to hearing from you.





Guest speaker Jules Stevens



The Australian Ladies team that competed in Scotland and Canada.



The Machrie Hotel in Scotland where all competitors stayed.

Polaroid glasses

One of the most important items that an angler must have, is a good pair of polaroid sunglasses. Research has proven that wearing sunglasses is critical for our long-term eye health and vision. And as anglers they are required to not only protect our eyes from stray hooks but to see into the water to locate a fish. The polarisation helps reduce the glare from reflective surfaces which can cause eye strain and eye fatigue. Something that we anglers do not need after a long day on the water.

What does it do?

The polarised lenses block out the horizontal waves of light that are reflected off surfaces, while still allowing the vertical waves of light from the sun through.

What to look for?

There are many brands on the market today, so I will not specify which is the best for you but provide some information that may assist you in getting the right ones.

The lenses must provide UV protection that filters out 100% of all the UVA, UVB, UVC, and blue light. The lenses can be either glass, or optical plastic but must be scratch resistant. Available types are photochromic, mirrored and for those that need them prescription. There are many colours available that suit the type of day. Lenses for a sunny day include black, brown, and green; for a cloudy day - black, brown, green, and yellow; for a foggy day - black, green, yellow, and blue.

There are many styles of frames available, the ones that provide the most protection are the “wrap around” style. The best way to select a frame that suits you is to try them on. Make sure that they are not too heavy, or loose fitting, or wrap too tightly. Glasses need to have a gap to eliminate the fogging of the lenses. And to make sure that they are not lost a strap cord is a must.

Finally, there is the cost of the glasses, buy what you can afford or what you want them to do. A good pair will last forever AND let you see perfectly into the water.



Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Chant Street on Wednesday 1st of November 2023

MEETING OPENED: 7:30pm.

Welcome:

President Martin Hingston welcomed the 27 members, guest speaker Jules Stevens and 1 guest to the meeting. He recommended that all mobile devices be turned off or placed on to silent.

Apologies:

Gary & Katie Baird, Marcus Rae, John Hughes, Alan Eckart, Bruce Irwin, Chris Crawford, Peter Ray, James Doherty, Jim Leslie, Peter Radford, Gavin Chugg, Dan Dempsey

Names of Guests:

Peter Jones

Guest Speaker:

Jules Stevens was re-introduced by Martin to the members as our guest speaker.

Jules has successfully represented Australia in the Commonwealth women's fly-fishing championships in Scotland. This was held in mid-June in Islay this year. Practice sessions were held at Lochs Skerrols and Leathan where each day a licence (~\$110) was required to fish.

The venues for the competition were Loch Ballygrant for the boat sessions and Loch Gorm for the shore stints. The ladies kept each other informed of what flies were successful and how they were fished. Although the fish were small, they were very good fighters. A trip to Bun-nahabhain provided some interesting results and learnings on sending samples home. Jules won the silver medal, Karen

Brooks the gold and the ladies team won the overall championship. The Australian men's team finished 3rd.

The next trip was to Kamloops in British Columbia where they fished Lakes Edith, Leighton, Sullivan, Tunkwa (Skunkwa) and the Simikamneen River. Overall, they finished 4th, but could have been better except for a bout of Covid.

The President led the members in congratulating Jules on a magnificent presentation.

Appreciation:

The President expressed the Club's appreciation to:

- John Quarry for updating the Club trophies and honour boards.
- Graeme Frankcombe for sourcing the materials to upgrade the bunks at Koongara.

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

- Robin Camilleri and Gary Cullen for the donation of flies for the fly bowl.
- Mike Stevens for the availability of the electronic equipment.

Minutes of last meeting:

The Secretary moved that the minutes, that appeared in the last newsletter was a representative record of that meeting, seconded by Norm King – and **carried unanimously**.

Matters arising:

Nil

Correspondence (since last meeting):

Inwards:

1. Newsletters – (email) VFFA, SAFFA, GFFC, CCFFC,
2. Charles Peck – (email) Raised concerns with the Parks solution for temporary toilets.
3. Malcolm Crosse – (email) The Ambulance lock is now removed from the canal gate.
4. Kerry Smith – (email) St Patricks Plains windfarm update.
5. Dion Tutty (Parks) – (email) Response to our concerns on toilet works.
6. Becks – Invoice for materials for bunks upgrade.

Outwards:

1. Dion Tutty (Parks) – (email) Issues with the alternate toilet location at Little Pine.
2. Peter Burr (DFFC) – (email) Seeking continuation of biannual fly-casting competition.
3. Scott James – (email) Invitation as guest speaker for May 2024.

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence was accepted; and outward was approved, seconded by Jack Barker – and **carried unanimously**.

Matters arising:

Outwards 2: The Secretary noted that the DFFC will notify us in early November who has the next 'home ground advantage'. The casting events are held in June and July each year.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses:

[REDACTED]

Income:

[REDACTED]

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Bendigo:

Petty Cash:

Cash Book:

The Treasurer moved the Treasurer's report for acceptance, seconded by Tom Seppala - and **carried unanimously**.

Matters arising:

The Treasurer noted that the remaining \$4500 has been reimbursed to him and will appear in the next month's report.

General Business:

Chairman's Lead:

Martin reminded the members:

- of the 'fly bowl' which provides good value of flies at \$1 each.
- To send photos and /or articles of outings to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

Great Lake Tie In:

Glenn Becher reported that the weather on the day was cold but was impressed with the euro nymphing display that was held in the canal.

Club Outings: (on whiteboard)

Members heading out on an excursion and require others to join them may place their information on the white board.

Fly casting at Grindelwald – coordinator Don Cameron

Next outings are – November 5th & BYO BBQ, 19th - both starting at 10:00am ending at 12:00pm

Fishing Outings: *Graeme Frankcombe is the contact and coordinator for all Club fishing outings.*

- November (Lake Fergus "Foray" 25th / 26th) {12 confirmations with 8 cars}
- December (Penstock Lagoon "One Fly" Sat.9th)
- January (Little Pine Lagoon "Cane Day" Sat.20th, "Plunder" Sat.27th)
- February (Grindelwald "Basic fly-fishing class" TBC, "Western Lakes" TBC)
- March (Four Springs Lake "CUAD" Sat.9th)

A defibrillator, previously owned by CFF&FCA will be housed in the clubrooms and is now

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

available for all Club outings.

Fly Tying Nights:

The last Club tying night is next Wednesday at 7:00pm, same place as committee meetings.
(All welcome)

Fly Tying will resume in April next year.

Club Shacks:

If you are a regular visitor to any of the shacks and notice that some consumables are running low – remember to replace them the next time you visit. Discard any items that are 'out of date', some items have been known to be many years out.

Members are to report any faults or shack issues to the shack warden or Club committee.

Koongara:

Graeme indicated that the bunks will be upsized within the fortnight.

Banking:

The Treasurer and Secretary will meet with the CBA to set up a new account and then transfer the funds from the Bendigo Bank to the Commonwealth Bank.

Other General Business (From the Floor):

Nil

Fishing Reports (from Members)

Members who have visited Four Springs have noted that to catch fish it is best to drift over to them then hold that position before casting - rather than use an electric motor. The fish are easily spooked even over a great distance.

Club Raffles:

Guest speaker Jules Stevens drew the night's raffle which was won by Vince Bannon.

Next Meeting:

Prior to closing, the President reminded the members of the December meeting where we will have raffles, snacks, and drinks - and to bring plenty of change.

Meeting Closed: 9:00pm



Club Fly Fishing Classes

Grindelwald "Fly Fishing Classes" - Confirmed Dates

- ◆ February 10th, Basic Fly Fishing Class 10:00am - 3:00pm
- ◆ February 17th, Intermediate Fly Fishing Class 10:00am - 3:00pm

Coordinator - Jimmy Ellenberger

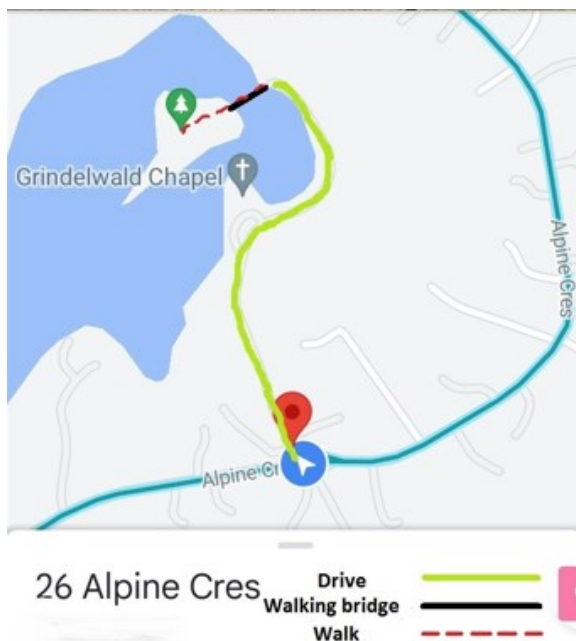
Casting Instructor- Bill Greensmith



The fish in the highlands even tease more during the closed season.

Here is a photo of Bruisers Lagoon taken by Lyndon Haines.





Access to the property
of 26 Alpine Crescent .



Gate to enter the property of
26 Alpine Crescent.

Grindelwald Fly Casting and Social Outings - Confirmed Dates

- ◆ November 19th, 10:00am - 12:00pm
- ◆ December 3rd, 10:00am - 12:00pm (and BYO BBQ)
- ◆ December 17th, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Coordinator Don Cameron (ph. 0409 636 273).

For Booking of the Club Shacks go to our website

www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au/uncategorized/booking-a-shack/

Remember booking is made only by a phone call

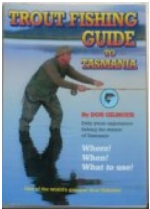


Noonamena



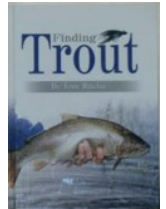
Koongara

Club Library



Members are reminded to take full advantage of our comprehensive selection of books and DVD's that are available in the library.

If you are intending to visit an unknown water, or after a particular fly pattern, or just researching our Club history you will find the answer there.



Contact our librarian - Jimmy Ellenberger.

Members please check your accounts with **Treasurer - John Quarry**

at: john.r.quarry47@gmail.com

Payments and club banking Details

Account: The Fly-Fishers Club of Tasmania

BSB: 633-000; ACC: 20498 9909

Please ensure that your surname & what the payment is for is included

The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

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Vice President:

Mr. Jack Barker

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Mr. Peter Ray

Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger

Mr. Bill Greensmith

Mr. George Dale

Mr. Keith Blewett

