



Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

Newsletter - January 2024

Coming Up

Next General Meeting:

7:30pm 7th February 2024

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

Next Committee Meeting:

7:00pm 14th February 2024

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

Enjoy the Festive Season

Be Safe and remember

There is no General Meeting in January.

Next Club Outings:

Little Pine Lagoon "Cane Day" (21st January) - Refer Page 5

Little Pine Lagoon "Pine Plunder" (27th January) - Refer Dec NL

Four Springs Lake "Clean Up Australia Day" (9th March)

What a Difference a Fly Line Makes by ALLAN EKERT

Shooting Head Taper: These lines have an aggressive front taper and a thin running line. They are designed for long-distance casting, particularly for saltwater or big game fishing. Shooting tapers enable anglers to shoot out more line with less effort.



Shooting Head

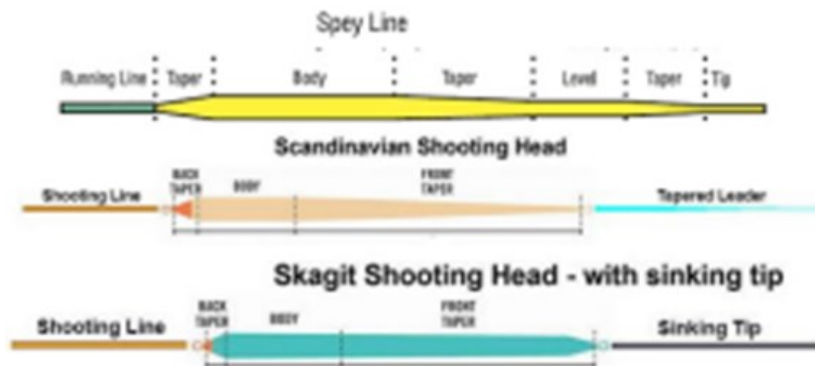


Triangle Taper: Triangle taper lines have a long, gradual front taper that forms a triangle shape. This design allows for delicate presentations, accurate casting, and gentle turnover. They are favoured by anglers who require precise control and want to achieve delicate presentations.



TRIANGLE TAPER (TT)

Spey Lines: Spey lines are specifically designed for two-handed casting techniques, primarily used in Spey and switch rod fishing. They come in various tapers, such as long belly, mid belly, and short belly, to accommodate different casting styles and fishing conditions. Scandinavian and Skagit lines are variations of the spey line.



When it came to testing different tapered lines on the same rods in our casting group, it became obvious what a difference a fly line can make. Some tapers worked well while others presented problems or did not do the job as was expected. But there's a lot more to understand about fly lines than just taper. The way we weigh a line to find which rods it is designed for, the core, coating, texture and even the material that it is made from are all important factors to consider. Next month, I'll discuss these and other things about fly lines

in the never-ending discovery of what a difference a fly line makes.

Updated Fly Line Manufacturers in 2023

Airflo - Based in the UK, now owned by Mayfly Outdoors, an American company.

Cortland – USA. *Monic* – USA. Northern Sport Fishing- UK and Canada, now probably only manufacturing in Canada.

Rio - USA. Owned by Fairbank who also own Sage.

Scientific Anglers (Orvis owned) – USA.

Leichi - China. Best known for their brand Maxcatch. (Not much is known about Leichi they may outsource production and there may be many more Chinese manufacturers.



Updated Fly Lines in 2023

406, Airflo, Aleka, Allen, Aquapro, ARC, Ballistic, Barrio, Beulah, Blue Halo, Cabelas, CND, Cortland, (Masterline), Drury, EGO, Gaelforce, Greys, Duideline, Hardy, Hatch, Iridius, Jim Teeny, Loop, LTS, Mackenzie, Maxcatch, Monic, Michael Evans, Naru, Northern Sports (Shakespeare), Orvis, Partridge, Redditch, RIO, Ron Thompson, Royal Wulff, Sage, Scandinavian, Scientific Anglers, Sierra, Sexyloops, Shakespeare, SKB Pitsford Pirate, Snowbee, Sonik, South Pacific, Spartan, Speyworks, Stalker, Streamside, Sunray, Talon, White River, Wildfisher, Wychwood, Vision, ZEN,

Watch for Allan's next issue.

Club Outings

The Contact coordinator for all Club Outings is now Graeme Frankcombe

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

- **Little Pine Lagoon** : (21st January) "Cane Day" Refer Page 5
- **Little Pine Lagoon** : (27st January) "Pine Plunder" Refer December NL
- **Four Springs Lake** : (9th March) "Clean Up Australia Day"

Mudeyes

Background:

This insect is from the order **Odonata** and is divided into two sub orders, **Zygoptera** (damselflies) and **Epiproctophora** (dragonflies), both have aquatic juvenile stages called larvae.

The larger and stouter dragonfly larvae, known as "mudeye", are often used by fishermen for bait and many fly-fishing lures are designed on the concept of adult damselflies and dragonflies. The term "mudeye", although usually from the *corduliid* / *libellulid* group of dragonflies can be used for all dragonfly larvae. The *aeshnid* larvae are sometimes called "coutas" due to their sleek barracuda-like looks.

Mudeyes are found amongst submerged and emergent vegetation or on leaf packs on the substrata. They are slow moving predators that rely on camouflage to catch their prey. Their jaws are long, hinged structures that fold up underneath the head.

Most dragonfly larvae can propel themselves through the water by rapid expulsion of water through valves around the anus. This is useful for attack and defence.

Dan's Mudeye:

This fly was demonstrated By Dan Dempsey during one fly tying night and has proved successful at Penstock Lagoon and Tooms Lake on both brown and rainbow trout. Over time Dan has modified this fly to make it simpler to tie and just as effective. Here is the current tie.

The Tie:

Hook	#10, or #8 long shank.
Body	Chenille died green, or cream.
Eyes	3mm Plastic bead.
Wrap	Rabbit fur (green, or black)
Thorax	Rabbit fur dubbing (green, or black)

Process:

1. Insert hook and lay down a bed of thread.
2. Tie in bead eyes close to hook eye.
3. Secure with a drop of superglue.

4. Tie in chenille and wind from the hook bend to behind the eyes, then tie off.
5. Tie in a bunch of rabbit fur to form a wrap over the chenille body.
6. Use rabbit fur as dubbing just behind and between the eyes to form a thorax.
7. Shape the 'wrap' ends to form a point then varnish to retain the shape.



Note:

Mudeyes come in all body colours and sizes, so tie up a few variations to suit.

This pattern is to be fished slow, usually retrieve in slow pulls of a foot (30cm) or so and takes can be either gentle or the rod can be almost yanked out of your hand. A fast or slow sinking line is best adopted depending on the depth of water fished.

Thanks to Dan Dempsey for the tying instructions of his fly.

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

Start at **10.00am** and conclude at **4.30pm**.

Please register at the Fly Fishers' Club shack, at Little Pine by 9.30am

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**.

RSVP 1 week before to:

Chris Crawford at clcrawford@netspace.net.au or

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

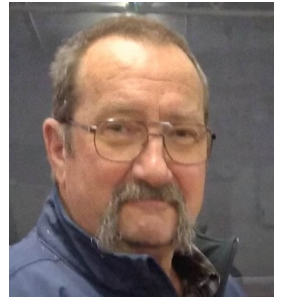
President's Report

Hello members.

With the imminent arrival of Santa Claus where has the year gone.

It seems the older we get he comes more often than he did when we were young,

or is it just a case of time fly's when you are having fun. My theory is that the older you get it takes longer to do things there for time seems to go faster.



When replacing gas bottles at the club shacks, please do not deduct the amount you pay for the gas from your shack rent as this makes the treasurer's job more difficult. Please get a receipt and forward it to the treasurer with your bank account details (a photo will do), the treasurer will then reimburse you for that amount.

An issue that has occurred several times now at Noonamena is members that have been using the shack have been turning the taps off too tightly. This forces the tap washer into the tap body, the next person to use the tap then has no water and must pull the tap apart and replace the washer, this can also damage the seat.

There was a good rollup for the one fly at Penstock, most of whom managed to catch at least one fish. Chris Crawford being declared the winner.

A reminder to members that the club is now banking with CBA and the Bendigo Bank account will be closed at the end of January, account details in the newsletter.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry and safe Christmas and all the best for the new year.

Martin Hingston

President FFCT.

MERRY CHRISTMAS 

Lake Fergus Report

The FFCT had its annual foray to Lake Fergus and as always met with variable conditions .It is hard to imagine that on this same weekend in November we have had from thick snow to cloudless blue skies and anything in between. This time it was leaden grey ,overcast and much needed rain that greeted the seven stoic members who decided to turn up.

After driving into Fergus on a very muddy road after months of dry weather the valley and surrounding hills were shrouded in mist and drizzle. The lake itself with a slight ripple and glassy edges looked very promising but from the hut we could tell that the water level was very low and even the Pine river was suffering and looked to be reduced to pools with hardly any flow.

The party made up of Gary and Katie Baird ,Terry Horan, Simon Wood, Phil Harker, Peter Duffy and myself set up our tents in drizzly rain with the promise of worse conditions in the afternoon we thought it would be wise to get the camp sorted before heading to the lake.

I walked to the SW corner and straight away spotted tails and fish moving in the margins, the odd dun was being hunted down as soon as it emerged and the frog feeders were ever present moving through the pin rushes, sadly the water level was just too low for the usual fishing of the channel between the pin rushes and the shoreline, in places it still existed and those little bays and recesses had fish patrolling chasing frogs .

On my circuit of the lake I must have seen at least 50 fish, cast to many, had numerous takes, missed a lot by striking too quickly or too slow after they swirled at the sunken fly and ended with seven fish. Three were very good condition about 2.5 lb the rest just small fish. As I headed up the last 100 metres before the boat ramp I noticed some tails and dorsal fins hard on the edge amongst the stone and seeing spinner on the shore presumed that was what they were looking for, after tying on a black spinner I spent the next hour futilely casting at them and after back at camp heard that the rest of the crew had done exactly the same with the fish all along the shack shore within 1.0m of the edge. It wasn't till next morning that I noticed earthworms on the edge and on closer inspection there were worms everywhere amongst the rocky margins with the fish with their backs out poking round the rocks, oh, for a worm fly !

Later that evening we were very grateful for the shepherds hut and a cosy fire, the rain settled in and stories of the days fishing were told, mixed fortunes for the day with Terry having a big day out with 16, Gary 3, and a commendation for Peter who caught his first Fergus fish on a Red Tag that he tied himself!

The Sunday morning was met with a cold SW breeze and we all once again headed to our favourite places, the worm feeders were at it again but the rest of the lake very

quiet, Terry did a full circuit and it wasn't till the final shore that he fooled 2 of the worm eaters into taking a nymph, the rest of us a zero.

One thing we did find disturbing was the low water level and the warm temperature of the water, also a lot of dead fish on the shoreline and one was never far from the smell of rotten fish, I think we may have counted 30 dead on a circuit of the lake.

Hopefully it's just a natural cycle with most of the dead fish being old slabs that we have seen in the past few visits, by the amount of smaller fish and the ones we did catch that pulled hard it looks promising.

Dry conditions have set in all across Tasmania with many rivers suffering as well as the lakes, maybe a portent of things to come as we still haven't hit summer heat .

Thanks to Randall for continued access and also to the members who attended.
Cheers Graeme.



A productive edge along Lake Fergus

Members are reminded that we have changed our bank account.

For those that have adopted a payment via a direct deposit into the old account, please change to the new one.

The new account details are:

Account: The Fly-Fishers Club of Tasmania Inc

BSB: 067-603;

ACC: 1052 0644

Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Chant Street on Wednesday 6th of December 2023

MEETING OPENED: 7:30pm.

Welcome:

President Martin Hingston welcomed the 33 members and 1 guest to the December meeting. He recommended that all mobile devices be turned off or placed on to silent.

Then spoke about the raffles and how they will be done. The lucky door prize will still be drawn; The other raffles will be run separately with Peter Berne selling the tickets each prize will have a different colour ticket.

The prizes and ticket costs are:

- 3 of 1 book and a packet of flies. (The cost will be 3 for \$5)
- 6 x Shack Vouchers (The cost will be 3 for \$5)
- 1 x fly rod at \$5 per ticket
- 2 x Bottles of wine at \$5 per ticket
- 2 x Vouchers from Essential Fly Fisher at \$5 per ticket.

Apologies:

Gary & Katie Baird, Marcus Rae, Stephen Hill, Jim Leslie, Peter Radford, Bob Wolf, James Doherty, Andrew Wood, Tom Seppala, Jim Ellenberger, Matthew Stagg, Steve Charles

Names of Guests:

Peter Jones, Vin McCaughey

Appreciation:

The President expressed the Club's appreciation to:

- Graeme Frankcombe for completing the bunks upgrade at Koongara.
- Keith Blewett installing the proper gas tape at Noonamena.
- Chris Crawford, Graeme Frankcombe and Nick Merrony for assisting our New Zealand angler.

Minutes of last meeting:

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

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Matters arising:

Nil

Correspondence (since last meeting):

Inwards:

1. Newsletters – (email) CCFC, SAFFA, VFFA, GFFC,
2. James Weston (Hydro) – (email) Angling competition/event licence reminder.
3. Michael Scott (Parks) – (email) Access to Lake Pillans & Talinah is open.
4. Ian Ferrier – (email) Hollis Banks Rates, Land Tax and Insurance bills.
5. Megan Ryan (CBOs) – Consultation draft for Work with Vulnerable people to expand the definition.
6. Mike Stevens – Tas Fishing & Boating News issue #155.
7. Jeremy Ranicar – (email) Hollis Banks AGM 28th January.
8. Louise Pullen – (email) Wayatinah Fishing Competition 9 – 11 February.
9. Malcolm Cross – (email) 'Mending Casts' on-line auction.
10. AAT – (email) Mossy Marsh dam re-opened.
11. Henry Delves (via Martin Hingston – (email) 'Tale Out' electronic fly-fishing journal.
12. Bendigo Bank – Closure details of one account.

Outwards:

1. Dion Tutty (Parks) – (email) Issues with the alternate toilet location at Little Pine.
2. Tony Wright (AAT) – (email) Concerns on minimum water level article.
3. James Weston (Hydro) – (email) Seeking exemption to angling competition licence.
4. Jules Stevens – (email) Appreciation for guest speaker role.
5. Tony Wright (AAT) – (email) Angling licence in Hydro waters query.
6. Randall Trethewie – (email) Appreciation for allowing access to Lake Fergus & Club report.

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

Matters arising:

Inwards 11: The President informed the members of an online journal called "Tale Out" that

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

members can place the exploits on.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses: \$

Income: \$

Bendigo/ CBA:

Petty Cash: \$

Cash Book: \$

Prior to moving his report, the Treasurer noted that the Bendigo Bank account will cease at the end of January 2024 and all funds will be transferred to the Commonwealth Bank.

The new process will now mean that both the Treasurer and Secretary will need to be present on the same device to confirm payments.

He also expressed his appreciation to the Club for his reimbursement after the recent scam. Even though he would have preferred it not to be repaid.

The Treasurer, John Quarry, moved the Treasurer's report for acceptance, seconded by Peter Ray – **and carried unanimously**.

Matters arising:

John Stagg moved the motion "*that both the Treasurer and Secretary should be formally acknowledged for the works done in receiving a positive solution with the Banks*"; seconded by Jack Barker – **and carried unanimously**.

General Business:

Chairman's Lead:

Just some reminders for the members:

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.

Club Outings: (on whiteboard)

Members heading out on an excursion may also place their information on the white board.

Fly casting at Grindelwald – coordinator Don Cameron

The last outing was – December 3rd.

Don indicated that the casting would resume on the 1st Sunday in February (BYO BBQ). He

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

also noted that the area will need to be maintained. The committee will appoint a gardening crew and liaise with Don.

Fishing Outings:

Graeme Frankcombe is the contact and coordinator for all Club fishing outings.

- December (Penstock Lagoon "One Fly" Sat.9th)

The outing will start at 9:00am and conclude at 4:30pm and the normal day rate of \$5 to all members will apply.

- January (Little Pine Lagoon "Cane Day" Sun.21st, "Plunder" Sat.27th)
- February (Grindelwald "Basic fly-fishing class 10th" "Intermediate Class 17th,
- There was no response from the members on a trip to Lake Burbury.
- March (Four Springs Lake "CUAD" Sat.9th)

Lake Fergus Report:

7 members attended on the day with Saturday being brilliant. It was a drizzly day with many fish working – taking duns and frogs in the pin rushes. The only downside was a lot of dead fish (slabs) were found around the edges. Sunday was a harder day with fish tailing, but not willing to take a fly. They were later found to be on worms. Terry Horan was the successful angler with 16 fish, Graeme with 7 and Gary 3.

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. And always check the use by date, discard any items that are 'out of date'.

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

Firewood is planned to be delivered to Noonamena on the 6th of January and we will need some help with the stacking. An email will be sent out once the date is confirmed.

Banking:

As the Treasurer has indicated the club will transfer their account funds from the Bendigo Bank to the Commonwealth Bank. The Bendigo account will be closed by February.

The new CBA details are BSB: 067 603; Account No: 1052 0644

Other General Business:

Nil

Fishing Reports:

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Four Springs Lake has reported good fishing particularly in the late afternoon with good spinner falls yielding large fish.

Penstock Lagoon has had some huge dun hatches that have resulted in catches of good fish.

Arthurs Lake has fished well, although most are small fish.

Little Pine Lagoon has had duns hatching in various amounts with some excellent fish being caught, the majority are small.

Club Raffles:

Nathan Merriman drew the night's raffle which was won by Peter Jones.

Next Meeting:

February – social evening to “catch up” on what's fishing well.

Prior to closing the President passed to Peter Berne who discussed the raffle system and thanked Robin Camilleri for his donation of books.

The President in closing wished everyone a Merry and safe Christmas.

Meeting Closed: 8:07pm



Check out the new and improved beds at Koongara.

They are all wider and complete with new mattresses.

All works and photos by master craftsman Graeme Frankcombe.



Jimmy Ellenberger

I have received information that our tireless working member is currently undergoing treatment to recover from a debilitating illness. It has taken a while for the diagnosis to be confirmed, and now he will be undergoing the required treatment.

The Club wishes Jimmy to have a successful and speedy recovery.



Chris Crawford proudly holding the trophy as the winner of the 'One Fly' event held at Penstock Lagoon on the 9th of December.

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

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

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 Inc

BSB: 067-603; ACC: 1052 0644

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

The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

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Mr. Graeme Frankcombe - 0458 421 909

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Vice President:

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Mr. Graeme Frankcombe

Mr. Peter Ray

Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger

Mr. Bill Greensmith

Mr. George Dale

Mr. Keith Blewett

