



Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

Newsletter - June 2025

Coming Up

Next General Meeting:

7:30pm 4th June 2025

1 - 3 Chant Street,
East Launceston

Next Committee Meeting:

7:00pm 9th July 2025

22 Hoblers Bridge Road,
Newstead

Guest Speakers - Hairy Castles

**Come tonight to hear how to make cane rods.
Hairy (a good friend of Dan Dempsey) has made
many cane rods and will revel all of his secrets.**

Next Club Outings:

Christmas in Winter - July 5th (Refer Page 13)

FFCT 70th Anniversary - October 26 2025 (Refer Page 2)

Club Outings

Unless noted the Contact for all Club Outings is

Graeme Frankcombe (0458 421 909) graemef59@bigpond.com

70th Anniversary

To celebrate our anniversary we have decided to hold an informal social gathering at Myrtle Park. It will be in the format of a barbeque. To assist us in our planning stage we would like you to send us your confirmation.

Members are encouraged to bring their partners.

Where: Myrtle Park

When: Sunday 26th October 2025

RSVP: Graeme Frankcombe by 6th August 2025.



NEW CLUB ROOMS

Members are reminded that we will be **SOON MOVING** to our Club rooms from Chant Street to the St Michaels Hall at **22 Hoblers Bridge Road, Newstead.**

President's Report

Hello members.

The next general meeting on the 4th of June will be the Club's last meeting at Chant St due to the sale of the building. The St Michaels Association has offered us the use of a hall at their complex in Hobblers Bride Road Newstead on the same terms as we have for Chant St.



Committee members have met and viewed the hall and believe it will be a suitable venue for our Club meetings. We will have access to a locked cupboard for the library and will be able to have the filing cabinet stored in a rear corner of the hall. We may not be able to have the bigger wooden cabinets. The honor boards can be hung but may have to be removed after each meeting as the hall is used for basketball and cricket. These are minor issues which can be worked through. There are toilets and a kitchen where we would have a cupboard to store the mugs and other items. There is also ample parking in an area which is well lit.

As mentioned in my last report, several committee members have been trying to get a better option for the Club's building insurance. Once it is mentioned that there are multiple users of the shacks it is then classed as a short-term rental and insurers will not offer cover. The committee has decided to increase the excess to \$5,000; this will save the club over \$900 on the insurance premium. We have also received a refund of \$370 from our last premium payment because we have activated the change now.

It is very disheartening to see the very low water levels in some of the highland lakes, especially Little Pine Lagoon, currently minus 1.43 meters and falling. This is the second year in a row of very low levels. Let's hope we get some good rain in the near future.

Noonamena has now been winterized, any member using the shack must follow the instructions listed. This is extremely important to prevent any damage through water freezing in the system.

Christmas in Winter will be held on Saturday the 5th of July at Noonamena, any member wanting to attend this event must reply by the next meeting. The cost is \$20 plus \$10 per night if staying at the shack.

For any member wanting a night or two away the shacks are half price for the off season.

Martin Hingston - President FFCT

A few thoughts about casting practice—by Charles Peck

I attended the last casting practice at Grindelwald having been otherwise engaged for some time - a bit of fishing included. It was soon obvious that I needed to smarten up after a couple of missed targets in near perfect conditions - the whole object of casting at targets!

Also obvious was the significant improvement of some casters in the past year and the problems of others due to simple casting or equipment faults.

When I first started fly fishing (as a school kid) a family friend informed me that once I could accurately place the fly on a dinner plate at 15 yards about 5 times in a row he would take me to the Shannon Rise to fish. He fished there each year as did several of my school friends with their fathers, so I had heard a lot about the Shannon Rise.

My father did not fly fish and my grandfather Peck (a farmer) told me he did not need a rod although he once had a fishing licence. The St Leonards policeman told him he was giving a lot of trout around to friends and he should have a licence. (I suspect a fine might also have been involved). My grandfather explained how to tickle trout which was how he fished the North Esk.

I had received a proper fly rod (a 3piece Turville “Mitta”) for my 15th birthday and I bought a J.W.Young reel and No3 Dodge line from my savings from selling rabbit skins. I persisted with casting practice and after a couple of months let the family friend know I could do it. Unfortunately he deferred at the time and then died soon after.

I waited about three years before I got to the “Shannon Rise” - by then I was working and self funded the week at the old Miena Hotel, a Cook’s bus trip from Launceston via Deloraine and Breona. (The Poatina road did not exist then.)

A great week of fishing, none landed from the river - numerous breakages in fast water with gut casts but plenty landed from dawns and evenings on the Shannon Lagoon. Also a day at Penstock Lagoon where I was taken too by another guest. I met a number of the best of Australian fly fishers and competition fly casters during that week at the Shannon.

The Hotel was fully booked, it was quite a social occasion for them - Mr and Mrs Gillies (J.M.Gillies & Co, Melbourne), the Southams (also rod-makers) from Sydney, John D. Brooks (noted angler and author) and Vic Yann (tackle maker) from Victoria and many others from Tasmania—including the Wigrams and their friends.

Then Compulsory National Service call - up and CMF training which deferred much fishing for a couple of years during which the HEC stopped the Shannon River.

I learnt a few things from early back yard practice and later competitive casting such as -

- Don’t tip the water with the false cast, it frightens the fish and can also interfere with the line trajectory.
- Ensure that your forward false cast straightens out clear of the water before the rod reverses direction to throw the line backwards.

(Strict casting competition rules require penalty demerits for tipping or “no cast”.)

(Some of the scores last Sunday would have been negative if all the rules were followed.)

- Minimise false casts - the fewer the better and don’t take the rod back too far - just a neat sharp stop, or pause after changing direction on the back cast.

- Learn to change direction while the line is lifting off on the back cast so that the moment the rod is stopped for the forward delivery, it is positioned to deliver directly to the intended target.

(This simple practice is very valuable when fly fishing to rapidly moving fish. If you try to change direction on the delivery cast you will usually put a bend in the line (and cast) when it lands on the water. Hence you lose accuracy.)

- Where a long length of line is already on the water, a short roll cast (into the air, clear of the water) to lift the line before the back cast, is a real help. It reduces the load on the rod.

Above all when fishing, remember that no self respecting trout will hang about waiting to be caught when the angler tips the water during his cast. Also minimize your casting it is the first delivery that matters, not the seventh or eighth try.

As for equipment when fishing dry fly I prefer to fish with a line that is rated at least one size higher than my preferred 'stiffish' rods because where I fish is usually windy. I have to fish from a boat and need to cover fish quickly. With an "overweight" line I have line control as the rod loads up immediately. (it takes longer to load the rod with a lighter line)

This ensures minimum false casts or none at all.

If fishing wet fly, particularly "loch style ", the same usually applies except when stripping big wets using a sinking line in rough conditions which is a bit boring .

Charles Peck



Members relaxing and enjoying lunch after a casting session
at the "Isle".

Life Membership Nomination

Members are reminded that at the AGM the honour of a Life membership may be presented to a member or members.

The member must be nominated in accordance with Rule 5.1(d) and satisfy the conditions as set out in Rule 4 (a) and (c) of the Club constitution.

The nomination and a resume of the nominee must be received by the Secretary by the August meeting to be discussed at committee level.

All nominations received are in strict confidence.

Max Christensen Award & Tanglefoot Trophy

In recognition of a member/s who have provided, over the last twelve months, a substantial and continued service to the club via many forms of contribution.

Past recipients of our highest accolade have been recognised for their valuable contributions in a wide range of areas / fields, including (but not limited to):

- outstanding service on committee
- undertaking additional duties on behalf of the club (sub-committee)
- significant contributions on working bees, projects, etc...
- representing the club on external activities (Adult Ed, AAT, IFS, etc...)



Snorkel Award

Members who have witnessed some unusual activities over the last twelve months and are prepared to 'volunteer' information, leading to the successful prosecution of any member guilty of going the 'full dunk' as part of their fishing / boating activities.



Annual Subscriptions are due on the 1st July 2025

Subs are due soon, please get yours settled at your earliest opportunity.

Annual Subscriptions for 2025 / 2026 are:	Amount
Ordinary Member	\$96
Junior Member (Under 18) & Full time Student	\$65
Eligible Pensioner (As defined by Rule 2 of the Constitution)	\$65



Here are a couple of photos that were to be included in Bruce Dean's presentation on Lake Pedder at our last General Meeting.

Recycle Rewards—Club fundraising

Those members that drink bottle water, cans of cordial or even the occasional beer can now deposit those empty items in a recycle bin. Each item is rewarded with 10c which can be used as a donation to our Club.

Collection outlets are at:

Mowbray Market Place Windsor Community Precinct Elphin Sports Centre

Recycle Rewards Depot—Waverley Meadow Mews Plaza

Prospect Vale Market Place George Town City Mission Deloraine Lions Club

Use this link to find out more information and what is an eligible drink container.

RecycleRewards.com.au. All should have a 10c printed near their barcode.

- 1. Copy this barcode onto your phone and save it.**
- 2. Scan the barcode so the reward goes to our Club then deposit the empties in the machine.**

The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania



D2506173483

Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Chant Street on Wednesday 7th of May 2025

MEETING OPENED: 7:30 pm.

Welcome:

President Martin Hingston welcomed the 23 members, Guest speaker and 4 guests to the meeting. He recommended that all mobile devices be turned off or placed on to silent.

Apologies:

Gary & Katie Baird, Marcus Rae, Jimmy Ellenberger, Annie Skarratt, Heather & Glenn Becher, David Swallow, Phil Harker, Andrew Wood, Don Cameron, Jim Leslie, Dan Dempsey, Matthew Stagg, Tom Seppala, Don Sweatman, Bruce Dean

Names of Guests:

Matt Robison, Callum Ross, Bruce Marshall, Katie Donohue

Guest Speaker:

The President introduced our guest speaker Jules Stevens to the members. Jules's topic tonight will be on her recent and successful WWFC that was held in the Czech Republic in 2024.

The competition was held on 2 rivers (*Vltava River* Upper & Lower and *Malse River*) and 2 lakes (*Lipno* and *Kvetonov*). The water level in the rivers was high and the flow was fast which made the crossing sometimes treacherous. Nymph fishing (down and across) using 2 small #16 pink bead-headed nymphs was the most successful. The river beats were 200 m long, and a different licence was needed on each one. To fish the lakes there were 2 different methods. In *Kvetonov* it was only from a small boat and accompanied by another competitor. One at the bow the other at the stern and the boat was anchored to buoys. Fishing *Lipno* could be done either in a boat or from the shore. This time the boat will be drifting but still will have another competitor casting next to you.

The team of Karen Brooks (capt), Di Richards, Kerryn Milligan, Jane Forster, Jules Stevens and Peter Brooks (mgr) finished a creditable 3rd at the end. They were tied with France for 2nd with the number of placings but lost with less points.

The President led the members in showing their appreciation to Jules for a most entertaining presentation. He also wished her the best of luck in the upcoming

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

WWFC to be held in the USA in July.

Appreciation:

The President expressed the Club's appreciation to Bill Greensmith for the large donation of flies.

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. Club newsletters (email) – SAFFA, VFFA, Coffs CFFC,
2. Central Highlands Council – Rates Notice for Noonamena – part 4.
3. IFS – (email) Cancellation of 'Trout Weekend'.
4. TasNetworks – (email) Planned upgrade to transmission lines from Waddamanna to Palmerston.
5. AAT – (email) Draft Strategic Plan for 2024 – 28.
6. Membership Nomination Forms for Matt Robison, Bruce Marshall and Callum Ross

Outwards:

1. Bruce Dean - (email) Appreciation for recent guest speaker role.
2. MAST – (email) Invitation as guest speaker in July.
3. Steve Patterson (IFS) – (email) Requesting schedule for 'Trout Weekend'.

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

Matters arising:

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Inwards 4: Martin and Richard will attend the public meeting at Poatina on the 31st May.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses: \$ 46.16 (Newsletters \$36.38)

Income: \$ 249.00 (Shack rental \$195.00)

CBA: \$ 9,060.66

Petty Cash: \$ 100.00

Cash Book: \$ 9,060.66

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

Matters arising:

The current account does not accrue any interest. We have plans in the future to open another account that will draw interest.

General Business:

Chairman's Lead:

Just a reminder for the members:

- of the 'fly bowl' which provides good value of flies at \$1 each.
- of the library that holds a large variety of books.

Club Outings:

July 5th - Christmas in Winter held at Noonamena, RSVP by the June general meeting {Charges are \$20 plus an extra \$10 if you are staying the night the shack only sleeps 8} Graeme noted that only 4 have confirmed.

October 26th – Club's 70th anniversary at Myrtle Park. {Graeme noted that only 2 have confirmed}

Club Shacks:

Members are reminded to take advantage of using the shacks over the off period as they are half price.

Noonamena will be "winterised" soon. If you plan to stay there over the winter, follow the posted process. If unsure phone Chris Crawford.

Fly Casting:

Fly casting at Grindelwald – coordinator Bruce Irwin

Contact Bruce to confirm the next outings.

Intraclub fly-casting event:

Bruce Irwin has agreed to be the coordinator and will contact the DFFC to confirm the dates for the events.

Club Rooms:

The President

- Expressed his thanks to the volunteers that assisted in the preparation of the room and will stay to clean-up at the closing tonight.
- Noted that this will be our last general meeting held at this venue tonight. This building is up for auction, so we are in the process of relocating. Both the Secretary and I have visited the STMA hall on Hoblers Bridge Road and believe that it is the best option as a replacement.
 - Advantages – large hall, kitchen, plenty of off-street parking, storage cupboards
 - Disadvantages – multi use hall so our glass cabinets will not be on display, wall hangings will need to be taken away each time.

We will have another visit to confirm the suitability of our cabinets; others are welcome to attend on that day.

Other General Business:

Peter Ray raised the idea of fund raising via the recycling process. All donations can be paid directly to Club's account via an app on the phone. He will provide the process at our next committee meeting so that it can be presented in the next newsletter.

A concern was raised on the large number of swans that are on Little Pine Lagoon. In the current low water levels will their excrement increase the nutrient level.

Fishing Reports:

Mike and Jules Stevens visited their *Secret Creek* on the last day of the brown trout

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

season. Both were successful using dry flies (#16 royal humpy) and mike used his newly created bamboo rod.

A recent stocking of rainbows has provided good fishing on *Brushy Lagoon*. It is best fished from a small boat but can be accessed from the shore.

In the last week of the season *Four Springs* provided one angler some good results.

Club Raffles:

The night's raffle was drawn by Peter Radford and won by Mike Stevens.

Next Meeting:

June – Hairy Castles (Cane Rod Building)

Meeting Closed: 8:45 pm



President Martin Hingston and guest speaker Jules Stevens



Important Notice

As all members are aware, we are currently living in difficult and unprecedented times. So, to keep all members notified on what is happening within the Club, either by our monthly newsletters or important notice issues.

It is therefore extremely vital that we have your current contact details.

If you have recently changed your postal address, or email address, or phone number, or are uncertain that we have your correct details, then please tell us.

By contacting the Secretary by email at:
secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au



Club Outing

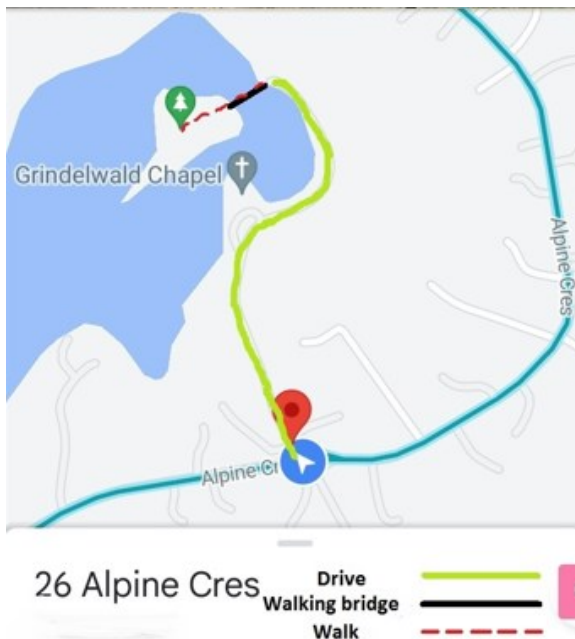


Christmas in Winter

Our annual event "Christmas in Winter" will be held at Noonamena soon. Members are encouraged to confirm their bookings by our June meeting. Places for the luncheon are limited to **12** so book early - also Noonamena can only sleep **8**.

DATE:	5th July
LOCATION POINT:	NOONAMENA
RSVP:	11/06/2025
CONTACT:	GRAEME FRANKCOMBE





Access to the property of
26 A Alpine Crescent .



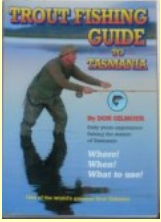
Gate to enter the property of
26 A Alpine Crescent.

Grindelwald Fly Casting and Social Outings - Confirm Dates with Don

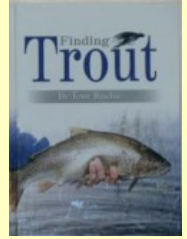
- ◆ 10:00am - 12:00pm
- ◆ Confirm all dates with the coordinator.

Coordinator Bruce Irwin (ph. 0419 116 344).

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.

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

For Assistance in the use of any shack contact **Chris Crawford**

Phone: 042-941-3687; email: clcrawford52@gmail.com



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

Website: www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au



Patron: Professor Nigel Forteath

President:

Mr. Martin Hingston - 0428 658 648

m-hingston@bigpond.com

Secretary:

Mr. Richard Hawley - 0429 888 687

secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Treasurer:

Mr. John Quarry - 0428 441 321

John.r.quarry47@gmail.com

Editor:

Mr. Richard Hawley - 0429 888 687

secretary@flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au

Immediate Past President:

Mr. Peter Berne

Casting Instructor:

Mr. Bill Greensmith

Librarian:

Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger

Facebook Administrator:

Mr. Jack Barker

Club Outings Coordinator:

Mr. Graeme Frankcombe - 0458 421 909

