



Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

Newsletter - February 2026

Coming Up

Next General Meeting:

7:30pm 4th February 2026

22 Hoblers Bridge Road,

Newstead

Next Committee Meeting:

7:00pm 11th February 2026

22 Hoblers Bridge Road,

Newstead

Club Night: - No Guest Speaker

This is our casual night where members catch up with all of the news that has happened over the summer period.

Where the best fishing places are and what flies work the best.

Next Club Outings:

January 17th - "Pine Plunder" at Little Pine Lagoon (Refer Page 2)

January 25th - "Cane Day" at Little Pine Lagoon (Refer Page 2)

Club Outings

Contact for all of our Club Outings is

Peter Berne (0419 764 816) peterberne1956@gmail.com

January: 17th Little Pine Lagoon “Pine Plunder”

- 9:00am Assemble at shack; Fish until 5:30pm.
- Return to shack for reviews and presentation.
- Members are encouraged to bring their guests.

January: 25th Little Pine Lagoon “Cane Day” (RSVP 17/01/2025)

- 9:30am Register at FFCT shack; Fish from 10:00 — 4:30pm.
- Return to shack for supplied BBQ and presentation.
- An entry charge of \$20.
- All proceeds for “Prostate Cancer Research”
- Contact Chris Crawford - clcrawford@netspace.net.au



Graeme Frankcombe. Graeme has spent a short time in hospital rectifying a knee issue. He is now back walking and will soon return to trouble the trout.

Alan Styles. Alan’s issues are a little more serious and he has spent many times going in and out of hospital. We hope that he can return to his normal health very soon.

Peter Rasmussen. Peter’s issues were also very serious and luckily the medics found what the issue was, and now is slowly on the mend.

Lake Leake Outing

13 members attended the day which was a good turnout and they were met with very high winds. There were a couple of members with boats who decided to go back home because it was so rough and windy.

Ross Frankcombe and Bob Reeves stayed the night and they fished the sheltered western shore - unsure what their catch was.

Bruce Dean and his brother Graeme fished the same shore for one fish. The rest found some shelter on Kalangadoo Bay fishing off the shore.

Bill Greensmith caught a nice brown on a buzzer nymph and Terry Horan also a couple of nice browns on mud-eye pattern.

Whilst it was a very good Club event on reflection we should have cancelled due to the weather.

Lake Ina Outing

Cancelled due to the bad weather.

Penstock 'One Fly'

The club held its iconic event for the year Penstock One Fly Saturday 13 December.

Sometimes you can be lucky with the weather and on this day it was fine with light winds.

All members enjoyed a great breakfast of 'bacon and egg' sandwich to kick start the day.

Thanks to President Bill Greensmith for organising the food for breakfast.

Special thanks to Glenn Becher and Andrew Wood for preparing and manning the BBQ's.

Total of 20 members rolled up for the day showing support for the club outing.

The winner of 2025 Penstock One Fly was Matt Robison with a Damsel Nymph as his nominated fly, well done Matt.



Reports by Peter Berne.

President's Report

Hi fellow members. Happy new year.

I hope your Christmas and new year was a good one. We are finally entering a more stable weather period with less wind and warmer conditions. fishing has been hard but not without its rewards.



The club has had a very good turn out for all its events last year and I would encourage you all to attend as many club events as possible in the future. If any members have an idea for any future outings for the rest of the season please contact Peter Berne and we will endeavour to organise it.

A possible outing in February is Pine Tier, a mid week one with an overnight stay.

So for my self I have been lucky enough to have fished Lake Fergus for 3 days. Conditions were near perfect and the fishing was the best I have had this season. I have had a couple of trips to Penstock which is fishing quite hard and one trip to St Patricks river where on arrival I found I had left all my fly boxes at home. Go figure.

Nice drive with no fish. I now have an emergency box in my car with flies, tippet and nippers just in case. Jokes on me.

As far as the club is concerned we have a new secretary, Terry Horan, who will take over from Richard as of February.

As you already know all shack bookings are now through Glenn Becher who will let you know how to obtain a shack key if you require one.

I am hoping to organise for more fly tying afternoons with a possible guest tier in the coming months.

I am again appealing to all members to help us help you any ideas you have for events, fishing or casting or anything else that members may be of interest to the club let me know

Tight lines but remember slac

Bill Greensmith—President FFCT

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LISTING 2025/26

First Name	Surname	First Name	Surname
Gary	Baird	John	Dekkers (Life)
Katie	Baird	Dan	Dempsey
Vince	Bannon	James	Doherty
Jack	Barker	Peter	Donati
Glenn	Becher	Peter	Duffy
Heather	Becher	Allan	Ekert
Peter	Berne	Jimmy	Ellenberger (Life)
Bob	Binns	Richard	Fela
Keith	Blewett	Jim	Ferrier (Life)
Paul	Boer	William	Fox
Thane	Brady	Gary	France
Michael	Burgess	Graeme	Frankcombe (Life)
Ian	Button	Ross	Frankcombe (Life)
Don	Cameron	Martin	Gilmour
Jesse	Campling	Peter	Godfrey
		Darren	Green
Peter	Castles	Bill	Greensmith
Steven	Charles	Andrew	Grubert
Gavin	Chugg	Phil	Harker
Christopher	Cohen	Ian	Harrison
Michael	Collins	Richard	Hawley (Life)
Joe	Conti	Martin	Hingston
Ray	Costello (Life)	Bill	Hodgetts
Chris	Crawford (Life)	Patrick	Horan
Gary	Cullen	Terry	Horan
George	Dale	Andrew	Howell
Bruce	Dean	John (Dr.)	Hughes

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LISTING 2025/26

First Name	Surname	First Name	Surname
Bruce	Irwin	Marcus	Rae
Scott	James	Peter	Rasmussen
Peter	Jones	Peter	Ray
Alastair	Kerr	Robert	Reeves
Norm	King	Andrew	Richman
George	Kismanis	Tony	Ritchie (Life)
		Matthew	Robison
Phil	Lebski	Callum	Ross
Tony	LeFevre	Peter	Rumney
James	Leslie	Tom	Seppala
Robert	Lowther	Annie	Skarratt
Bruce	Marshall	John	Stagg
Phil	McKendrick	Matthew	Stagg
Nathan	Merriman	Mike	Stevens
Nick	Merrony	Doug	Stingle
Alan	Miller (Life)	Alan	Styles
Rob	Moreton	Gary	Sutcliffe
John	Morwood	David	Swallow
Scott	Murphy	Don	Sweatman
Geoff	Nixon	Alan	Taylor (Life)
Colin	Nye	Bruce	Tole (life)
Thomas	Parker	Ian	Town
David	Patmore	David	Walker
Charles	Peck (Life)	Philip	Watson
Les	Perkins	Des	Wheelton
Frank	Pomogacs	Steven	Williams
John	Quarry	Andrew	Wood
Peter	Radford	Robert	Wolf

**Minutes of the General Meeting Held at the STMA Hall Hoblers
Bridge Road on Wednesday 3rd of December 2025**

MEETING OPENED:19.30.....pm.

Welcome:

Welcome the members and guests (if any) to this meeting. I recommend that all mobile devices be turned off or placed on to silent.

Guest Speaker:

Tom Deer on his new book. Tom gave a great talk on sight fishing for trout and the insights to his book

Apologies. Peter Ray, Becher family, Dave Swallow, J Ellenberger, G. Frankcombe

Guests Chris Hill, Shing Chia

Minutes of last meeting: President

I move that the minutes, that appeared in the last newsletter was a representative record of that meeting and
call for a seconder please. Chris Crawford

Those in Favour.....Yes.....Against...No.....Carried

Matters arising: Any matters from the floor.

Nil

Correspondence (since last meeting): President

Inwards:

The Vice, Malcolm Crosse (penstock tenants in common meeting)
AAT meeting. Coffs Coast FFC. VFFA.

Outwards:

New owners of Webbs Shop in Longford confirming that there will be no change to the current arrangements for shack bookings and keys.

I move that the inward correspondence was accepted; and outward correspondence was approved and call for a seconder please. Don Sweetman

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Those in Favour.....Yes.....Against.....Nil.....Carried

Matters arising: (ask if any from the floor)

Nil

Treasurer's Report: (Bill Greensmith)

Expenses: \$ (major payments)\$1440.25

Income: \$ (major payments) \$707.50

CBA/cash book \$ 8278.15

Petty Cash: \$ 100

Recycle \$17.50

Bill Greensmith to move the Treasurer's report and call for a seconder Don Sweetman

Those in Favour.....Yes.....Against....nil.....Carried

Matters arising: (ask if any from the floor)

Nil

General Business:

Nil

Just a reminder for the members:

of the 'fly bowl' which provides good value of flies at \$1 each and whip finishers \$5.

Of the Club library where there are many books and dvd's.

Club Outings:

The Club Events

Penstock one fly 13 December. Numbers required

Pine plunder 17 January 2026

Cane Day 25 January 2026. (24th dinner at Miena, numbers required) Entry fee for Cane day is \$20.with the funds going to Prostrate cancer research. A raffle prize drawn after the fishing with a bottle of whisky (donated by Chris Crawford) and a bottle of Gin (donated by Mick Stevens Essential fly Fisher)

4 Springs clean up 26 January 2026

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Club Shacks:

Koongara. Nil

Noonamena. Nil

Fly Casting:

Fly casting at Grindelwald – coordinator Bruce Irwin 13th December 2025 Christmas BBQ.

Club Rooms:

Thanks to the volunteers that assisted in the preparation of the room and clean-up of the kitchen area.

Any other General Business (From the Floor) Nil

Raffle drawn by Tom Deer and won by Richard Hawley

Next Meeting: 4th February 2026

Meeting Closed: 8.45pm

The minutes were noted and compiled by our Club President.

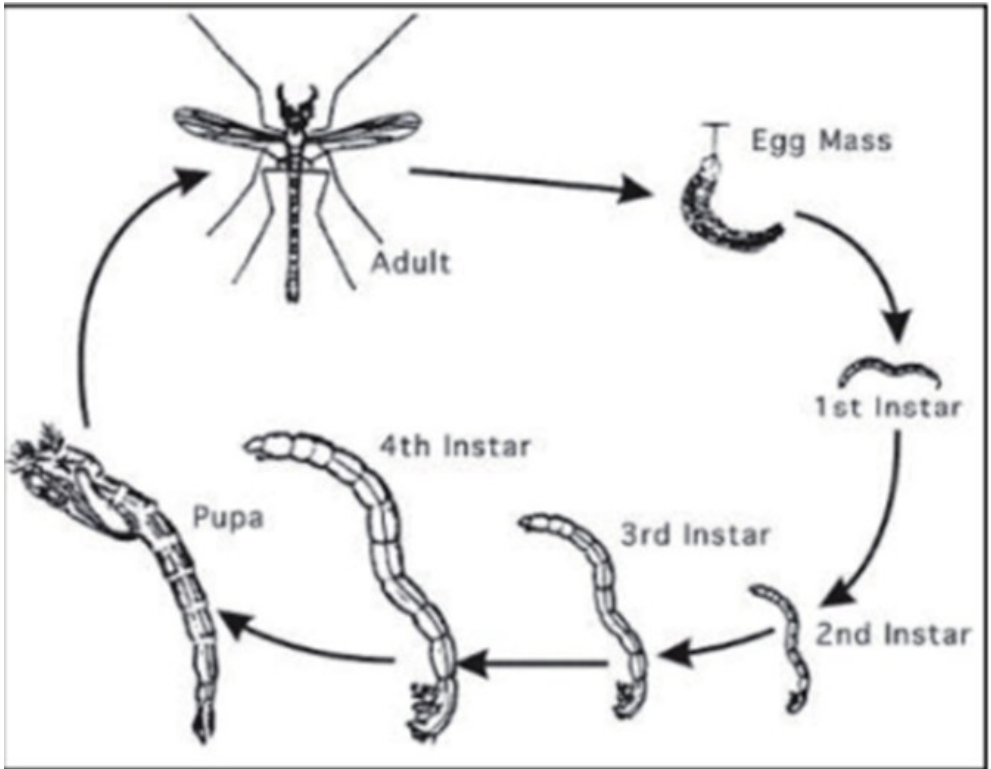


President Bill Greensmith (L) with guest speaker Tom Deer.

The Chironomidae

Background:

The family Chironomidae is a group of Diptera insects belonging to the suborder of Nematocera, commonly called “non-biting midges” in the adult stage and “bloodworms” or “buzzers” in the larval stage. They undergo 4 different life cycle stages during their life.



Egg: In general, their eggs are laid in the form of gelatinous masses in contact with water.

Larvae: The length varies from almost 3 to 25–30 mm long as does the colour ranging from whitish yellow to red, green, blue, brownish, purple or even orange and there are 4 instars.

Pupa: The pupal stage is very short compared to the larval stage; its duration is from a few hours to several days. They are comma shaped, and their length varies from just under 3 to 18 mm. Their coloration usually follows that of the larva.

Adult: The adult emerges from the surface of the water in a very short period. Their life is short, and it does not take long for the adults to mate and lay the eggs. They are small deli-



The buzzer:

Fishing with “buzzers” is very popular in European and UK still waters and their popularity stems from the fact that chironomid hatches can happen at any time of the year and that the rising nymphs form a large part of the trout’s diet. Methods of fishing buzzers are many and varied. The most practiced on UK still waters are to fish two or three on a long leader and fish them either dead drift or with just enough retrieve to avoid slack between you and the flies. Also popular is hanging one or two under an indicator or, if it’s very calm and the fish are spooky, just a leader greased to within a couple of feet of the fly. The naturals are very slow movers and take a long time to wriggle their way to the surface - easy pickings for the trout so takes are usually quite gentle. When the buzzers reach the surface, they have trouble breaking through the meniscus and tend to hang there, which could often be the explanation for those frustrating times when we see those bulging rise forms that don’t quite break the surface, and we say that they’re midgeing.

The Tie

Hook	Gamakatsu GP301 #14, or similar
Thread	8/0 Uni - Black
Thorax	Fine black rabbit fur, or seals fur
Body	Pheasant tail fibres
Ribbing	Silver flat tinsel
Wing buds	Split Jungle cock
Gills	White marabou fibres



Process

1. Set the hook in the vice and lay down about 6 turns of thread – trim waste.
2. Select some marabou fibres and tie in forward of the hook eye with 2 – 3 turns of thread.

3. Trim off base section at an angle, and front section about 2mm from the hook eye.
4. Wind the thread to opposite the hook point.
5. Tie in the tinsel and continue winding the thread down into the hook gape.
6. Select 6 pheasant tail fibres and tie in base first, then pull the fibres until the tips are close to the tie in point.
7. Wind the thread to tie in the fibres to opposite the hook point.
8. Wind the pheasant tail fibres forward in the opposite direction, then tie off and trim the excess.
9. Wind forward 5 – 6 turns the ribbing, tie off and trim the excess.
10. Tie in the wing buds, trim waste.
11. Tidy-up by adding a few more turns of thread to the thorax.
12. Dub on the rabbit fur and form the thorax.
13. End up with the thread in front of the marabou.
14. Varnish the thread and whip finish in front of the marabou.

Note:

1. Moisten the marabou to keep its shape.
2. Lay the jungle cock feathers with the good side facing up and force the 'eyes' down either side of the hook.

The Knotted Midge:

The Knotted Midge is another of those universal flies, like the Griffiths Gnat, used just about everywhere that trout feed on midges. It is supposed to represent a mating pair and stands out from all the singles on the water. Trout are notoriously difficult to catch when they are midgeing, just cruising around leaving barely a dimple as they sip them from the surface film.

A well-placed 'knotted midge' often brings results.

Sometimes the only difficult thing about tying the 'knotted midge' is finding hackle feathers small enough.

The Tie

Hook	Dry fly #16 - 20
Body	8/0 Uni – Black, or similar
Hackles	Black cock



Process

1. Set the hook in the vice and lay a foundation thread from the hook eye to above the hook barb.
2. Tie in the rear hackle 4 – 5 turns and tie off and trim excess.
3. Wind the thread forward to just behind the hook eye.
4. Tie in the front hackle, tie off and trim excess.
5. Whip finish.

Note:

1. As shown in the photo a 'wedding band' of gold or silver tinsel can be tied midway between the hackles.

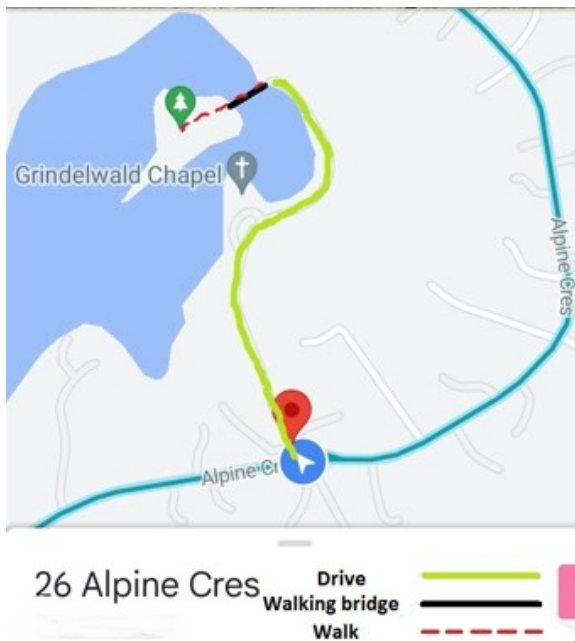


These flies appeared in the "Fly of the Month" archive by and with thanks to Alan Taylor for the tying instructions of his flies.



Club members and their partners enjoying the Christmas barbeque at the Isle of Shalom on Sunday the 13th of December.

Photos by Bruce Irwin.



Access to the property of
26 A Alpine Crescent .

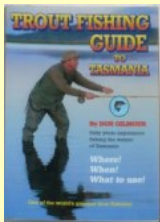


Gate to enter the property of
26 A Alpine Crescent.

Grindelwald Fly Casting and Social Outings - Confirm Dates with Don

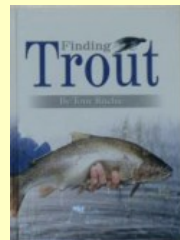
- ◆ 10:00am - 12:00pm
- ◆ Confirm all dates with the coordinator.

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

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Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger

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Mr. Jack Barker

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Mr. Glenn Becher

Mr. Andrew Wood

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Mr. Peter Ray

Mr. Jack Barker

