



# The Vice



**Newsletter of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.**

**Volume 18, Issue 3 Summer 2026**

**Inside: ... Lake Ina, Cane Day, 70th Celebrations, Cicadas and more...**

*Cover Shot – Tom's Wilderness Renzetti - Tom Woolley and Glenn Becher*

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Acting Vice Editor	Doug Miller

<http://tasmanianflytyersclub.org>

## President's Report

It's not often I struggle putting pen to paper, or keyboard to Word. As we approach the end of the 2026 season I have decided not to nominate for the position of President next year and am reflecting on my past 6 years as President of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club. It has been an honour to serve the Club and maintain the confidence of the Committee and Members for that time.

As President there have been many projects that I've been involved in. These include the replacement of the stove in the Miena Shack, and the planning and commencement of the Lake Sorell shack renovation. I have overseen the maintenance of Club membership over all classes, at around 120 people. This is at a time when many clubs are finding it difficult to recruit members and some fishing clubs have had to merge, due to decreasing numbers. We must be doing something right to keep attracting new members.

I am proud of the organising committee that run the Great Lake Tie In each year. It was great to see a group of very committed members from the TFTC take on this event, especially after the death of Graeme Blight. Without this dedicated group this event may well have ceased to exist.



I have seen the induction of Life members Tony Abel, Andrew Hood, Nick Ingles, Tim Lewis, John Smith, Ian Stokes and Noel Wilson, all for their outstanding commitment and service to the Club. They join an exclusive collection of Life Members who are all legends in their own right. I would like to thank all the Elder Statesmen of the Club for their support and wise council that I often sought from them.



The Committee appointed John C Fowler as Club Patron after several years of the role being empty. John is the son of previous patrons John and Barbara Fowler, it is great to see this family tradition continue. He has known many of our members for years. This includes being at school with recent past President Andrew Hood and knowing Nick Ingles and many others for decades.

The achievement that means the most to me is by no means an individual effort. In early 2020 the world was a very different place to today. COVID 19 was causing major disruptions to most aspects of life at the time. Many families had major disruptions to cope with. This was a major challenge to the TFTC as public gatherings were not allowed and this included meetings and fishing trips. Lockdowns and travel restrictions were in place and seemed to change almost daily. With the help of the committee and our resident information technology expert, Steve Butler, the Club pivoted to the online space and maintained function and connection, until things got back to normal. This innovation continues with the Zoom Fly Tying Sessions on Tuesday nights. To keep everything together when the world seemed to be going to hell in a hand basket is something I will always fondly remember.



One of the most challenging Presidential jobs is awarding the Johnny Walker Clubman of the Year. To single out just one person for recognition is an almost impossible task as the strength of the TFTC is that many people do all sorts of different things worthy of this award all of the time. This selection is something I will certainly not miss, although I must do one more at the end of this season.

I am proud of the Club's involvement in the World Fly Fishing Championships in 2019. I was on the Organising Committee as Controller Coordinator and was overwhelmed by your support. The Club was responsible for Penstock Lagoon, and many members volunteered at the other four venues. It was critical to the success of this international competition that we had competent boat and river controllers who knew the Tasmanian environment and were happy to dedicate their time.

I would like to thank the committees that have supported me during the last 6 years. There have been some retirements of longstanding people that has allowed for renewal. In true Club spirit departing committee members have offered support and encouragement to those who have taken on these roles.

I often say that a committee doesn't need 8 of the same people, it needs 8 people who offer a different perspective. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you over the years and I value your service, input and good nature to get things done.

I want to thank all members for your appreciation and encouragement, and your constant invitations to go trout fishing. I appreciate the fostering of a wonderful environment to uphold the Club's aims of 'The cultivation and

encouragement of the art of fly-tying and fly-fishing'.

It has been a great experience to have played a role in achieving this for the Club.

Thanks to all.

Tight lines.



**Andrew 'The President' Reed**

## Editorial

Firstly I would like to thank Andrew Reed for his efforts and support as President of the Club. He has done an excellent job over a very long time. He deserves to take a break and enjoy retirement now that he has a lot less time to himself!

Even though I have had very few opportunities to fish over Summer (life gets in the way) there have been some great events as usual.

In this edition there is a great report on Glenn Becher's trek into Lake Ina. It sounds like a wonderful place and a real adventure!

Cane Day was a great success and it goes to show that the essence of fly fishing with cane rods does not rely on huge numbers of fish coming put of The Pine to make it a great event. Thanks to Peter Ras for once again providing a great report on this annual highlight.

Quite a few members have either been to or a replanning to go to the land of the long white cloud. As a result they all seem to want a good cicada pattern. Check out the offerings inside in Fly tying on the WWW.

Finally - come along to the Annual Dinner at Valleyfield in the Valley of Love. James Jones and David Travalia have curated what looks like being a memorable event!

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Steve at Spot On fishing tackle has kindly provided the Club with four \$30 Vouchers for the best stories contributed to The Vice. Vouchers can be picked up from the Editor at your leisure!

This time the voucher goes to **Glenn Becher** for his fantastic report on the Lake Ina trip.

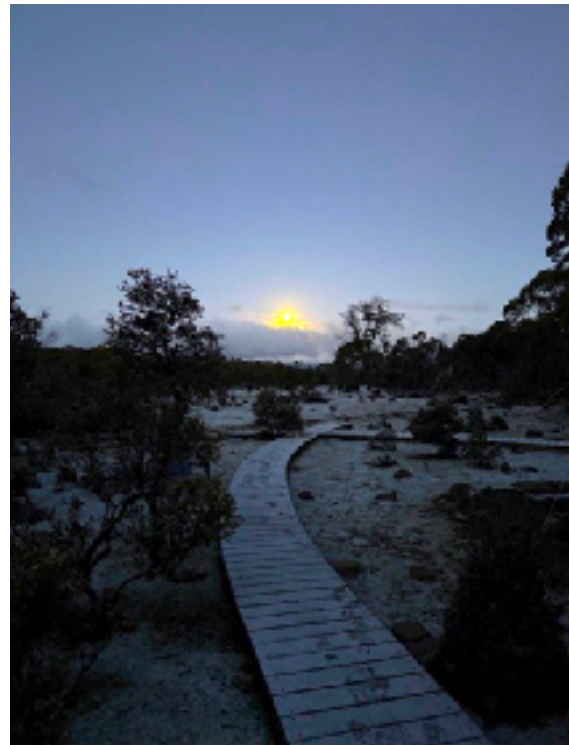
Send your stories to [55dmiller@gmail.com](mailto:55dmiller@gmail.com)

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## Lake Ina Trip Report

On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 a small group of intrepid adventurers went into Lake Ina for 3 nights. Tom Woolley, my wife, Heather and myself had planned this walk for a number of weeks. Heather and I had been in to Lake Ina in March 2025, on that trip we encountered atrocious winds and wet weather and left early as fishing and camping was not enjoyable. We did vow to come back and after talking to friends and Greg French decided late January would be the best time to go. After all that is prime summertime. We checked weather reports and despite forecast of a small amount of rain on the Sunday we decided all would be good. Who would have expected snow on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February?! We were in the highlands, so we were well prepared.

Below – the start of the snow in the morning and a shot of the moon in the evening. It snowed overnight and we awoke to beautiful day on the Monday.



Lake Ina is situated on area known as Skullbone Plains and is managed by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy. It is adhered to the Walls of Jerusalem National Park and is an outstanding piece of Tasmania's Wilderness Heritage area. Thanks to Gemma who manages visitation to the site we managed to have access for 3 nights. Numbers accessing the area is limited as it is usually quite busy during prime fishing times. The area is accessed via Bronte Park and there is a long drive through 6 locked gates after picking the keys up from the Bronte store, along an old forestry road, approximately 20 km drive from first gate to camp site. There is a well-maintained camp site with platforms for tents and a short walk away is a toilet well known for its view. The tarp was newly purchased just before the trip and it proved to be invaluable – we collected the snow and used in the esky to keep everything cold. Also protected us from rain and snow, the small shelter over which it is hanging is really inadequate for some of the weather in this area.



We found this skull in the tree at the car park.



Lake Ina itself is a 1 hour walk of approximately 4kms from the carpark– there are numerous tracks to Lake Ina and we explored a number of them over the few days we were there. We tended to stay on the southern part of the lake, fishing off the beach and rocks close to the shore. However, there are numerous places to fish and which warrant exploration next trip. The eastern

side of the Lake has some lagoons that apparently hold some larger trout.

The start of the track from campground to Lake Ina and after an hour of walking here is our first view and a few pictures of the track as we walked it.

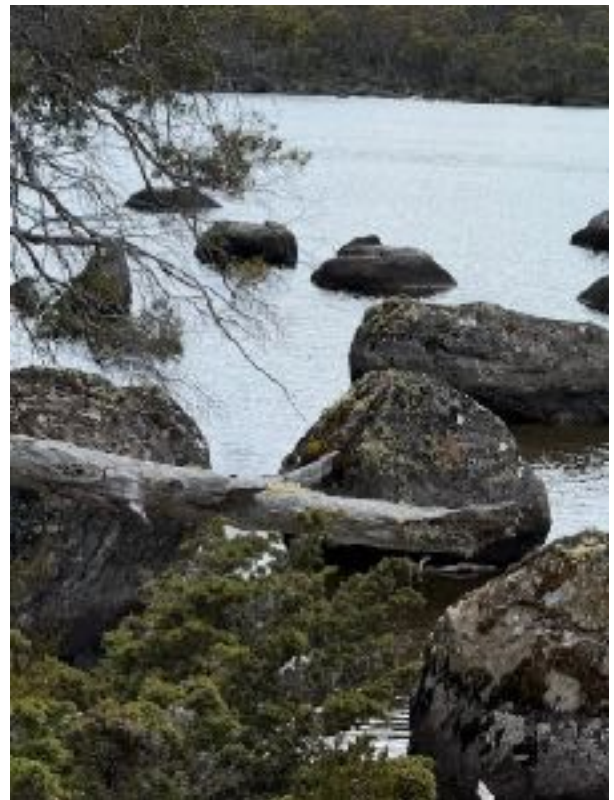




The southern part of Lake Ina, next trip we plan to venture to the lagoons in the east and explore the northern part of the lake.



Heather and I particularly enjoyed polaroiding the fish around the rocks and casting to them on the first day, on the final day casting to rising fish taking black spinners and damsel flies was the highlight for us.



The scenery around Lake Ina is quite special and has a certain beauty about it, you may see some pencil pines in these pictures and view towards Mount Olympus was quite special.



Tom caught all the fish, I have been sworn to secrecy regarding the fly used but here are some pictures of the fish caught and their stomach contents. I was particularly interested in the green beetle – it was quite prolific around the camp, the track to the Lake and inside of fish.



The fish did get bigger:



The colourful contents of one of the fish.

Highlights of the trip:

Great company - We didn't know Tom well but we thoroughly enjoyed his company, knowledge and love of good food and whisky. We ate particularly well, Tom provided venison and smoked fish, we provided wallaby and a gravlax fish (caught by me the week before at Cane rod day at Little Pine). Also the splendid scenery and being in a special part of Tasmania's wilderness and walking and fishing an amazing piece of water.



Another highlight was seeing the travelling Renzetti in action – we needed some unweighted nymphs and Tom tied some beauties.



All in all a fabulous trip, with many elements to it but highlighted by being in magnificent part of Tasmania in great company with an abundance of gourmet food and beverages. And the fishing whilst challenging was excellent and what one would expect of such a unique area. Looking forward to next year's trip.

**Glenn Becher**

## Fly Tying on the WWW

After hearing reports of fishing in New Zealand from a number of members I decided to include a piece in The Vice on tying Cicadas. Now there are many different videos on YouTube and I'm sure you could find your favourite. A lot of them required foam cutters which I don't have but this one impressed me with its simplicity. I have changed it a bit from the original, adding eyes and changing the body chenille and I suggest that you do the same.

### Black Cicada



Hook: Curved long shank dry #10  
Thread: Black Uni or similar  
Body: Black 2mm foam  
Underbody: Chenille (I used black sparkly stuff)  
Wing: Float Vis White  
Thorax: Peacock dubbing Antron  
Legs: Round rubber in green and black  
Eyes: Orange or red rubber legs trimmed



Tie in the chenille from the bend of the hook trying to make a tapered body.



Super glue the foam onto the chenille with the tail slightly longer than the hook and tie it down near the eye.

Tie in the legs and dub with peacock Antron. The back legs should be longer than the front. (I only



had four legs but you could put on six).

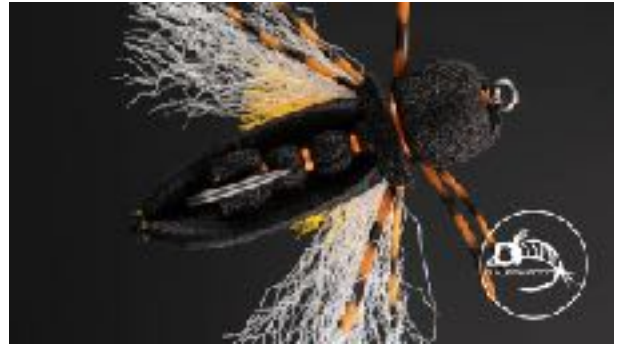
Tie in the wing material slightly longer than the



body length and the orange rubber for the eyes.



Fold the head over the the wing and secure with super glue. Tie it down with a few wraps of thread about 2-3mm from the eye.



Whip finish and use head cement as usual. Finally trim off the excess orange rubber to make eyes. Trim the other legs to the length that you like.

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Here are a few other example software different ties that might useful.



## Cane Day 2026

As club coordinator for this event it was so gratifying to see large numbers of members in attendance. Thank you members for embracing this event so heartily.

The event started with a well attended meal at the pub. Thanks to Anna for organising this & the guest speaker. Some cane rods were made available for casting on the front lawn. Several members took advantage of this opportunity.

Hairy shares his cane rod building story



Anna found good company in Jan Spencer.



Hairy Castles gave us a wonderful insight into how much work goes into making a quality cane rod. Many hours of patience & expertise to get a good outcome explains why good cane rods are not cheap.

The meal in the atrium was enjoyed, as discussions on the merits of modern cane rods prevailed.



The event on Sunday 26th Jan. was a great success. The fishing was tough for most. The bright day saw heaps of caddis, some black spinner & a few duns but little sign of Mr Speckles. Some in boats or on shore did ok near the river mouth.



**Peter Ras  
Club Coordinator**

The event raised over \$700 to be donated to prostate cancer research. A fine and worthwhile effort by all attending.

The barbecue was a fine success, I must acknowledge Tom Woolley, who made all the hamburgers & provided the steaks. Not only that he cooked for all. Thanks so much Tom, you did our club proud.

So the raffle was drawn with some success for club members. This lucky raffle relies on member contributions to get the prizes together. The organiser from the fly fishers Chris Crawford generously donates to this, as did our club through a member donation.

Chris Crawford the organiser from the Fly Fishers club of Tas. was delighted with how the day went. We had around 27 in attendance & many gun anglers from both clubs shared willingly.

Our bond with fellow fly fishers is strengthened further. A great event. My thanks to all members in attendance

## 20th Anniversary Dinner 2026

The Dinner promises to be great this year so do yourself and your family a favour and come along! It will be held at Valleyfield in New Norfolk - a wonderful venue on the banks of the Derwent. What better way to celebrate our club's 70th year.



### Sample Menu – 70th Anniversary Lunch

#### *Canapés To Start*

Pork Apple and Fennel Tarts with Tomato Relish

Potato Blini with Creme Friache and Pancetta

White Bean Crostini with Salsa Verde

#### *Feasting Table Main*

French Chicken Normandy with Tasmanian Apples and Cider

Slow Cooked Lamb Shoulder with a Pepper and Rosemary Crust

Eye Fillet Tagliata served on a bed of Radicchio with a  
Warm Garlic and Anchovy Dressing

Mushroom, Green Bean and Lentil Salad with Fetta Cheese

Roasted Beetroot and Carrot Salad with Honey Thyme Vinaigrette

Whole Baked Pumpkin with Quinoa, Adzuki Beans and Chimichurri

Crispy Kennebec Potatoes with Tasmanian Olive Oil and Sea Salt

Sweet Potato Salad with Roasted Capsicum and Red Onion,  
Spinach, Fetta, Chilli and Olives

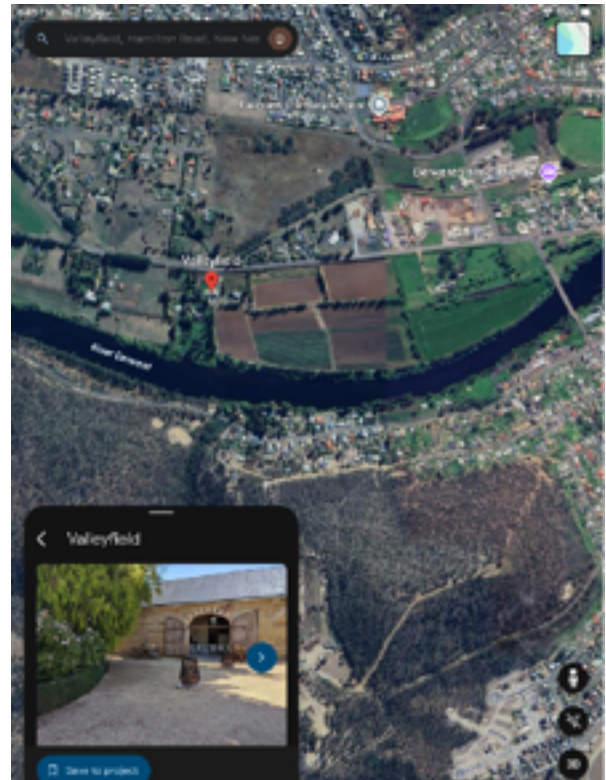
Genovese Focaccia

#### *To Finish*

Platters of Assorted Tasmanian and European Cheeses with  
Crispbreads and Crackers

Fresh Fruits

Here is a Google Earth image of where Valleyfield is



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## Club Loan Equipment

There are 3 rods and one reel currently available to be borrowed by club members for their fishing needs

### Rods

- Stalker 10/7/4+1      10' 0"    #7 weight  
(spare tip)
- Sage TCX 990-4      9' 0"    #9 weight  
(fighting butt)
- Sage TCX 990-4B      9' 0"    #9 weight  
(fighting butt)

All rods come with rod tubes (but 1 sage rod has a non sage rod tube)

### Reel

- Fly Axle – Shina      Loaded with a 7 weight orange line



To book and arrange a pick a rod or the reel please contact John Spencer on 04 27538446