



The Vice



Newsletter of the Tasmanian Fly Tyers' Club Inc.

Volume 17, Issue 3 Autumn 2024

Inside: ... Casting Day, Bothwell Dams, Interlaken and much more...

Cover Shot – Sunset Bothwell Dam Weekend

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<http://tasmanianflytyersclub.org>



President's Report

We are now deep in the Off Season. Most of us are either getting ready for next trout year or travelling to warmer climes. Despite this the Club has been very busy with projects, fishing trips and fly-tying events.

The Club shack project at Lake Sorell is now had phase one completed. This involved preparatory earthworks for access and car parking, slab set out and pouring. There was a hardy band of workers led by the ever-busy Tony Abel.

Weasel Dam weekend was held in challenging fishing conditions just outside of Bothwell. The campsite was comfortable as always with the central BBQ and Portaloo for all to use. The water levels were as low as I've ever seen and there were not many fish caught. There was a 'Mrs. Simpson One Fly Competition' in memory of Scott Bowden and I'm sure this will be mentioned in the trip report. There were plenty of Club members having a good time around the camp fire on the Saturday night. The saying of 'Never let the truth stand in the way of a good story' got a fairly good workout! It was pleasing to see Judith Bowden join us in camp for afternoon tea which included some venison from Nick Ingles.

There was a 'Get to know Lake Sorell' on the last weekend of the regular season which was well attended. It was pleasing to see some of the more senior Clubmen sharing all their secret spots with some of the people who haven't fished this water. There was a vicious rumour that one of our members caught a fish while TROLLING, but that is yet to be confirmed!

The Tiger Hut Weekend had a change of venue this year and it was absolutely fantastic. The Interlaken Accommodation House has been renovated and open to groups to hire. It was warm, comfortable and had great amenities for all. The two sessions were well attended and thanks to those who organised venue, food and wine. It was pleasing to see everyone sharing their materials and knowhow at this event. There were some exceptional wines, including a Jim Barry Shiraz, but my personal favourite was Spence brought along a bottle of 1981 Taylors vintage port he got for his 21st birthday. It was in perfect condition, according to our tame wine maker, so we wished him happy birthday all over again. The Guesthouse has been there for so long

Tony Dell remembers being there when he was 8 years old!

Please enter your Fowler Trophy results on the Club website as I'm sure many have fished the day so far. There are only 3 teams with results at this stage. If you are having computer issues give me a
Upcoming events include the Bream Day on Sunday 16 June. There are both boat and shore options so please register on the website.

There is a new venue for our Annual Lunch on 28th of July. This year it will be held in Richmond at Wattlebanks in their private outside room. Expect an invitation shortly in your email inbox. Thanks, as always, to those members who ran trips, organised accommodation and provided food and drinks. The Club runs smoothly because of all the hard work you do to help.

I'd particularly like to thank Doug Miller for his work on the Vice
Tight Lines

Andrew 'The President' Reed

Editorial

The season has now officially closed and only the year round waters remain open. I know some members love fishing throughout winter and others have a break until the new season. Whatever you choose - enjoy it!

In this issue there are reports on the Casting Day at the Salmon Ponds, the Bothwell dams camping weekend and the Last Day trip to Sorrel. All were successful events and enjoyed by club members.

I have also included two extra bits - one on repairing fly rods and the other on a very interesting site that appeared on my radar called 'She Ties Flies' which has amazing production standards, brilliant tying technique and ASMR! What's not to like!

Also, check out the advertisement for purchasing Andrew Hoods boat - you could snag a bargain!

DM



Steve at Spot On fishing tackle has kindly provided the Club with 4 voucherVouchers can be picked up from the Editor at your leisure!

Send your stories to 55dmiller@gmail.com

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shot for each new target. The set-up was simple, the task very clear, it looked easy... it wasn't! Again competitors braved the plank to cast and still the breeze stayed away - maybe a slight headwind provided Editors with excuses for their poor performance. As was customary, when the prize was there to be won heroes emerged to score heavily. The judges judged, Scorers scored and casters cast. Spectators looked on in awe. Sausages and salads were being prepared and the first glasses were filled with wine.



With the competition part over, the smiling throngs wound down to the river chalet, buoyed by the thrill of

competition and summonsed by the delicious scent of cooking. Rugs were placed out, chairs set in convivial circles, plates, bowls and cutlery were readied. Back at the long pool organisers quietly removed the target rings, final scores were tallied, trophies and certificates were signed, speckled monster trout went about their business as usual.



When the feasting was done the presentations were made. Certificates for the best three in each competition and for the overall victor. Promises of trophies were made, competition organisers and chefs were thanked. Final glasses were drained and the satisfied throng quietly wended their way home. Webers were disassembled, the now cool coals carefully disposed of and the chalet cleaned ready for the next folk. The last to leave smiled as they passed the quiet pool with its silent submerged lives on occasionally breaking the surface.

DM

AdVice - Tips and Tricks

Mike Stevens from the Essential Fly Fisher sent out an eMail a while ago (30/82023) indicating that lifetime warranties were changing somewhat. The gist of it was that some of the bigger companies like Sage were making some of their earlier products no longer covered by the lifetime warranty.

'One of the great things about Sage has always been it was possible to get an old favourite repaired - regardless of the age of the rod. That may no longer be the case.

Recent models can still be repaired for \$175, but older models - something SAGE now call Legacy have just jumped in price to \$300 and some models are now classed as un-repairable.

Let's have a look at what that means:

Current/Recent (\$175 cost) includes R8, X, Salt HD, Sonic, Trout LL, Pulse, Igniter, Maverick, Igniter, Approach, Mod, Salt, TCX and a few others back to about 2010.

Legacy Models (\$300 cost) includes some rods that go back to 1996 such as: DS, Fli, Flight, RPL+, RPLX, VPS, Xi2, Z-Axis, ZXL and others.

Un-Repairable includes: DS Youth, GFL, SP, SP+, SPL and others. One of the great things about Sage has always been it was possible to get an old favourite repaired - regardless of the age of the rod. That may no longer be the case.

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Source: Essential Fly Fisher eMail 30/82023

This got me thinking about how to repair fly rods and I thought it might be a bit of a series over the next few editions. So... we will start at the top - literally!

Mending a broken tip

Car doors, ceiling fans, tree branches and trying to de-snag a fly can often lead to the dreaded breaking of a rod tip. It's one way of spoiling your big day out, especially if you don't have a spare rod.

The following YouTube clip is a useful starting place to begin this saddest of tasks.



<https://youtu.be/BO7JvrG8Bjc?si=HSbs09UM8pZvff7D>

This is a very simple method using a needle and superglue and should be ok for a basic repair. Other sites suggest that a small drill bit could be a useful insert so it might be a useful idea to keep a small repair kit in your vest with some needles, superglue and a small square of sandpaper for that emergency situation - especially on a walk!

I asked club members if they had some tips...

Pete Murphy said he inserts a piece from a suitably sized fibreglass rod inside and then slides another suitably sized 'sleeve' over the outside and then secure it all with Araldite or similar. This sounds like it would make a very long lasting repair!

Others suggested similar approaches but I would be interested to hear from any members or readers on other techniques that they use or have tried.

For a really professional repair job however it is always worth going to see the experts at Spot On. They are a great supporter of our club and are really good at what they do!

DM

Farm Dams Camping Weekend



The Farm Dams trip was organised by Steve Butler and Craig Granquist was once again a great event. There weren't many fish caught and the dams were lower than I had ever seen but it was still quite a wonderful weekend.

As a tribute to the late Scott Bowden members were encouraged to tie and fish Mrs Simpson flies Scott's fly of choice. So people rummaged in their boxes and even went on zoom meetings to be shown how to tie this classic but often under-utilised fly. Thanks to Laurie Matcham who tied some of his favourite version - including some that traveled 'upside-down'.



The weather was kind to us. The winds were light but the fish, who should have been quite close together were not really into eating flies with the enthusiasm of previous seasons. Still, the

campfires were great and the conversations were wide ranging, supportive and very important. Those of us who were there really had an opportunity to bond and share their thoughts on the things that life throws at us.



There were still many who rose at dawn in the hope of finding tailing fish and some had success. Many found the muddy edges confronting. It was interesting to see the substructure of this huge dam revealed and many made mental notes about islands and channels for future efforts on the new season - if we are lucky enough to get invited back.



It was a real treat on the Saturday afternoon to have a visit from Judith Bowden who was brought along by the wonderful Nick Ingles. It gave us a chance to chat with her and thank her for all the support she and her family has given the club over many years. Judith enjoyed the visit and the venison which was also supplied by Nick. It was a poignant and lovely moment for all.



As many would now be aware Judith passed away recently after a short illness. She will be greatly missed and we send our sincere condolences to the Bowden family.

Many thanks to Steve, Craig and all others who helped. This is a very special trip and the organisers really make it easy for campers. The fires are really appreciated, the wood is always dry and plentiful and the hiring of the portaloo just makes it all easier. Well done to all involved!

DM

(Thanks to Stephen Butler for all the really good pics!)



Fly Tying on the WWW

Trigger warning- the following could be construed as being informative but ever so slightly creepy...

It is always interesting to find a really good fly tyer on YouTube, one that you haven't seen before. You can always learn something different and it can be quite relaxing to watch. This particular tyer has added an extra dimension to her video - ASMR!

For the unaware like myself ASMR videos are apparently all over the web and are often about things that I find a little underwhelming like wrapping presents or cutting hair. So what is ASMR?

ASMR stands for autonomous sensory meridian response; a term used to describe a tingling, static-like, or goosebumps sensation in response to specific triggering audio or visual stimuli. So in these videos all sounds are highlighted and soothing music is played in the background. There is no commentary and the production is superb.

The highlighted video is about tying a Cicada pattern for the once in 7 years hatch of the X variety. Not sure if they emerge here but the techniques are really interesting. Check out She Ties Flies!



https://youtu.be/IB_AH1q_v9E?si=keOWcu0U_TVUQI_M

Headphones recommended for the very best way of watching!

DM

FOR SALE: - COULAM 152 LAKE-FISHING BOAT



The boat is a Coulam 152 (15'2" or 4.5 metres), and is one of eighteen identical boats imported from the UK specifically for the World Fly Fishing Championship held in Tasmania in 2019. It is a model widely used for loch-style fishing in the UK and is ideally suited to fishing many of our lakes.

The boat has been used sparingly since 2019 and remains in essentially new condition.

It is of very sturdy fibre glass construction and meets the exacting safety and floatation standards required by the World Fly Fishing organisation.

The motor is a 6HP Suzuki four stroke, long shaft, model DF6A. Servicing records are available.

The trailer is an Affordable Trailers 5 metre, single axle, skid type, and has a spare tyre and bearing buddies.

Other features include:

- A custom-fitted boat cover and generic motor cover.
- Two padded swivel seats.
- Thwart seats of Tas Oak and Huon Pine.
- Oars.
- Fire extinguisher.
- Drogue anchor.
- 13 litre fuel tank and fittings.

Asking price: \$9,000, but negotiable for Club members.

For more information and photos please contact:

Andrew Hood on 0419575807

Interlaken - a new beginning

For more than twenty years there has been a club fly tying weekend at the Tiger Hut near Liaweenie. It has been one of the most treasured trips of the clubs year. This year we found that the lease for the Tiger Hut has not been renewed and



we couldn't book in. So... what to do?

The answer was to book in at the Interlaken Lodge or Guest House which is run by The Geneva Christian College. The venue was built in 1902 and boasts 12 bedrooms (complete with electric blankets!) numerous large rooms for tying,



relaxing and dining, a commercial kitchen all set on 5 hectares right on the shores of Lake Sorell.

There were two sessions organised by Andrew Hood and Tony Abel. Session one was from Friday until Sunday lunch and session two was from Sunday lunch until Tuesday. Casseroles were supplied by various members for the main meal on the first night and a brilliant roast was organised for the second night. As usual; the food



was plentiful and very enjoyable!

Tying was undertaken in the 'Ballroom' which had windows looking out to the lake and a wonderful log fire keeping everyone warm.

There was ample space for tying and it was easy to move around and check out what people were creating. Exactly what was being tied will be revealed in the Winter Vice which has traditionally been focused on fly tying!



The grounds of the Guest House had one of the best Fish Safes I've seen, complete with double doors to keep the flies out, a work bench and



plenty of ventilation. It would be a challenge to fill it!



Evening meals were held in the main dining room



which also had a wood fired stove to keep it toasty too. In all the place was excellent and the general opinion seemed to be that it was a winner and will hopefully be the home of the winter tie in for years to come!

DM

