

Northern Suburbs Fly Fishing Club

Editorial

If it seems like it was only yesterday that the *Northern Flyline* came across your desk, that's because it was only yesterday — well not far off it. The reason the March edition is being published in mid-February (two weeks early) is because the editor is ... um, er, well ... going fishing. As I pen this editorial it's less than 48 hours until I land in Queenstown for what, for me, is the trip of a lifetime. I have not done an overseas fishing trip before — the longest and most exotic fishing excursion I have been on is Melbourne Cup weekend at Bright — so this is special.

Naturally I have spent a fair bit of time on the internet researching the South Island and it's fair to say that there is a plethora of material online. It's almost confusing with different people's ideas on what gear to bring, what flies to use, what line and leader set-up, how to approach the fish, etc, etc.

And it sounds like the conditions are going to be challenging (lots of wind) and the fish oh so spooky. One thing that keeps coming up is practice your casting before you go so if you do happen to spot that 10lb brown you won't stuff it up by failing to put your fly in the right spot. Then again, you might stuff it up anyway.

As my casting is ordinary at the best of times I thought I would heed that advice. So, for the past fortnight I have been going up to the local oval and working on my double-haul (never did quite master that), reach casts, roll casts and generally trying to put a fly just in front of that large surface feeding trout that I spotted to the right of the cricket pitch (some people see it as a brown rod tube but to me it's a 75cm *Salmo trutta*. Now that is big!).

Of course casting on the oval means you encounter other people and most think it is strange to see someone fishing where there is no water. No, actually they think it is damn funny. And they just can't help themselves. They just have to blurt out the typical smart arse comment "Caught anything yet?" snigger, snigger, snigger. In reply, you can smile nicely, laugh along and say "no, not yet". Or, perhaps smile nicely and say: "Well, actually no. I would have, except these inconsiderate morons keep walking their friggin' dogs through the river, splashing about and scaring all the fish! Oh, and watch your step, there is a deep hole over there and the current is fast, if you fall in you'll be in trouble."

Enjoy your time on the water in February and March. I hope to.

Philip

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President's page

We have been getting a lot of enquiries about beginner courses lately which is absolutely fantastic but we need your help to get them up and running. It is obvious that we have a strong presence in the community and a lot of people want to know more about fly fishing and our club. As soon as the committee agrees on the dates for the next beginners course we will ask for your support to not only promote fly fishing but to share your knowledge with prospective new members.

From the council

You may be aware that Nillumbik Shire Council has been conducting a smoke free trial in a number of playgrounds for the last 12 months. This looks like it will expand into areas used by the club.

We have been advised that in early 2014 council will be installing or providing 'no smoking' signs at sporting reserves and playgrounds to encourage a self-enforcement of the ban and ensure that everyone is aware of the new legislation.

Media advertising campaigns will also be undertaken by the state government and council.

Under the *Tobacco Act 1987* (the Act) smoking will be banned:

- at or within 10 metres of children's playground equipment that is an outdoor public place
- at or within 10 metres of a skate park that is an outdoor public place
- at or within 10 metres of a sporting venue that is an outdoor public place
- during an organised underage sporting event, including training or practice sessions and during breaks or intervals in play
- in an outdoor area of a swimming pool complex that is a public place.

Although the Act does not cover open parks we have to be mindful that we have younger members and during activities like the 'Kids Come and Try Day' we should be seen to support a non-smoking environment.

A big fish

In preparation for a trip to New Zealand I phoned a close friend of mine to see if he could source some local intelligence on the fishing in the area. After talking about the weather and family etc, he told me he was sending me a picture of a fish recently caught by his mechanic's son.

As I was telling him of our plans for our trip the photo (shown right) arrived on my mobile phone. I could not believe the size of this thing! Graham is a man of few words but he told me it was caught on a fly (unnamed) while float tubing on Lake Ada which is near Milford Sound. It took over an hour to land and it weighed in at 23lb.



Alan Staton

What's On

March 2014

Thur	6	General Meeting
Tues	11	Aust Flyfishing Outfitters
Thur	13	Club Fly Tying
Sat	8	Kevington Trip
Sun	9	Kevington Trip
Mon	10	Kevington Trip
Thu	20	Committee Meeting
Thur	27	Club Fly Tying

April 2014

Thur	3	General Meeting
Sat	5	Rubicon River trip
Sun	6	Rubicon River trip
Thur	10	Club Fly Tying
Sun	13	Northern Open
Thu	17	Committee Meeting
Thur	24	Club Fly Tying

Club activities

Kevington trip - 8-10 March

Over the years the Kevington trip on the Labour Day long weekend has been one of the most popular events on the club calendar. Last year the location of this trip was changed at the last minute due to river conditions, but Kevington is back on the agenda for 2014.

In 2012 more than 20 members stayed at Skipworth Reserve between Jamieson and Kevington and there were plenty of fish caught as well as some great nights around the campfire. In fact, the 2012 catch cards show

that almost 150 fish were caught during the official competition hours.

The upper reaches of the Goulburn River runs right past Skipworth Reserve, but if fishing the Goulburn is not to your liking there is always popular Gaffneys Creek or the Jamieson River.

Australian Flyfishing Outfitters - 11 March

The club will host Dave Bradley and Clinton Isaac from Australian Flyfishing Outfitters on Tuesday 11 March. We will be putting on a barbecue from 6.30 with their presentation commencing at 7.30. More details can be found on the club website.

Rubicon River trip - 5-6 April

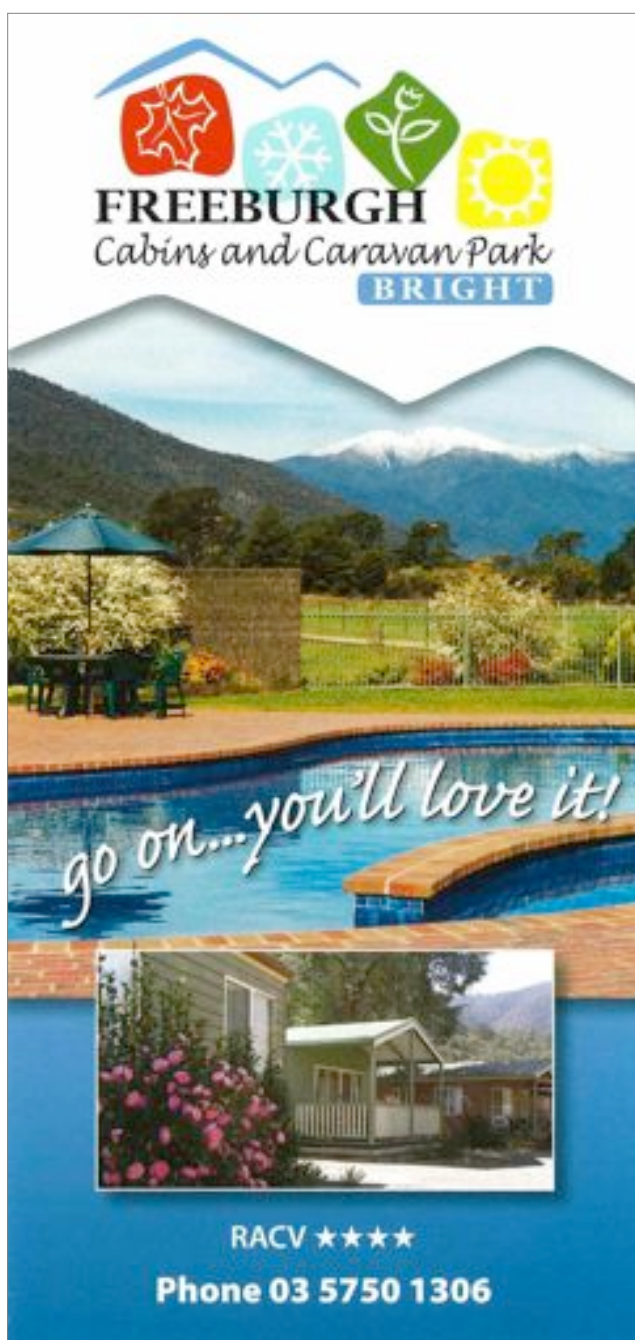
The club trip for April is to the Rubicon River on the first weekend of the month. We will be staying at Kendalls-A camping area just upstream from the power station. It is accessible in an ordinary car, has pit toilets, fire pits and plenty of shade. This location allows access to the Rubicon, Goulburn and Steavenson Rivers. Fishing conditions on the Rubicon and Steavenson are good at the moment with fish in the 20-35cm range taking dry flies in the late afternoon. Conditions on the Goulburn will depend on outflows which change daily.

Northern Open - 13 April

April sees the running of the Northern Open Fly Casting event. This is an Australian Casting Federation sanctioned competition but all club members are encouraged to have a cast. Being an 'open' event it is handicapped so the playing field is leveled somewhat. If you are not inclined to cast please consider coming along and lending a hand with the barbecue or setting up and packing away.

Member surveys

In August last year we distributed a Club Member Survey that was designed to help the committee better understand members' views and preferences so that it can set priorities and long-term goals that are in line with member interests. To-date we have had a minimal number of surveys returned. We require responses from 80 per cent of members to make the survey valid. If you have not already done so, the club committee would appreciate it if you could take a few moments to complete the survey and return it via email to Cain Polidano (cainp@unimelb.edu.au) or by hard copy to a committee member. If you no longer have a copy of the survey form please let Cain know and he will send you another.



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Hard work on the Jamieson

by John Smith

The club's four-wheel drive trip for 2014 was to the Jamieson River. The plan was to camp at Granny's Flat, which is accessible in a two-wheel drive, then share seats and strike out for less accessible areas of river.

A sidebar fishing trip to New Zealand and the threat of 15-25mm of rain, conspired to keep attendance numbers down but a couple of hardy (fool hardy?) members (Alf Chetcuti and myself) made the trek to this picturesque part of Victoria.

Stopping at Mansfield to stock up on supplies, we dropped into the local tackle store to get the 'good oil'. The proprietor's son Nick was very helpful and he confirmed what we suspected — that recent hot weather, cormorants and crowds had made the fishing a bit tough in the popular spots along the Jamieson.

He suggested as we had a four-wheel drive we should head for Wrens Flat, so armed with an up-to-date map of the new location — and a renewed licence for somebody who will remain anonymous — we headed off, confident of a fish-filled weekend.

Nick mentioned a shack in the area and while he didn't give us turn-by-turn directions he said it wasn't that hard to find. The thought of a shack in the rain was better than a tent in the rain so we headed down a fairly rough track in an attempt to find it.

On the way in we passed some excellent looking water and after a bit of low range work we found the shack and soon had the Hilux unpacked and rods ready to go.

We didn't immediately notice it, but wired to one of the shack supports was the head of a really good size trout considering it came from the relatively small upper Jamieson waters. Good tips from the tackle shop, an omen like this one — we were in for a great time, surely.

While the 'home pools' looked inviting we decided to leave them and head upstream to start. Hmmm, nothing from the first run, not to worry there is plenty of good water. Nothing from the first pool, it's early, no need to panic just yet. Then the pattern began to repeat itself, again and again...and a bloody gain!!! A big fat black cormorant flew past us — "you bastard" I yelled at it.

The afternoon session provided more disappointment and as we sat in the camp looking upstream the smoke from distant bush fires gave the place an eerie, ominous feel that we hadn't felt before. Oh well, the evening rise will be better, I thought.

There were a few fish rising in the large home pool and a platypus gave false indications of a good fish at work. As night fell I managed to hook but lost a reasonable fish.

After a few quiet beers and meal of garlic steak topped with onion and mushrooms, the plan to walk a kilometre or so along the track the next day then drop into the river and fish back to camp was hatched.

The track had a few steep sections and Alf and I were more than happy to drop into the river and start fishing. This section of river was not offering up fish easily either. But a small rainbow snatched my #12 Royal Wulff. At last the hoodoo was broken!

After making our way back to camp a little earlier than expected the stretcher looked too comfortable and we grabbed 40 winks before heading upstream for the evening rise.

The rise came late, but the fish were there. We'd positioned ourselves a little



The shack — if you can call it that — and other facilities at Wrens Flat.



A bit of a shame that it is nailed to a post.

upstream from where a fish was rising consistently and after drifting a #16 Parachute Adams back downstream the fish was hooked and subsequently dropped.

Drifting flies downstream to a rising fish is a technique where solid hook-ups can be elusive as the strike pulls the fly away from the fish's mouth rather than back into it's jaw. But persistence paid off and a small brown came to hand.

We continued casting to splashes until our flies and fly line ends couldn't be seen in the darkness and we called it a night.

The fishing may have been tough but the camping and four wheel driving was pretty good fun and a weekend on the water beats a weekend in the garden — hands down!

Upon returning home I picked up a copy of Rob Sloane's *The Truth About Trout Revisited* I had received as a Christmas gift.

Thumbing through this volume it fell open on the chapter about night fishing and upon scanning the text I came across this gem: 'Often big trout will prowl from their lies in streams by night in search of prey. Whenever the chips are down and daytime fishing is tough I can rely on night fishing techniques to make amends'. Thanks for the tip Mr Sloan, shame I didn't read it before this trip!



A small rainbow goes free on the Jamieson River.

NSFFC Champion Angler 2013-14 Leader Board

There has been very little movement on the NSFFC Champion Angler 2013-14 leader board in February. John Smith and Alf Chetcuti were the only members to go on the club's 4x4 trip to Jamieson River. They each collected 20 points for that effort, but not many more. At the midway point in February the leader board looks like this:

Daryl Wallis	290
Daniel Bowman	174
John Smith	157
Peter Cogdon	123
AJ Balachandra	63
Ian Lowe	60
Bob Walsh	60
Dave Davies	60
Chris Dabal	57
Darren Percy	42
Merv Landy	40
Pat Sheridan	40
Anne Hern	40
Ray Cresp	40
Lachlan Dyer	40
Alf Chetcuti	40
Noel Angwin	40
John Kruska	22
Boyd Wilson	21

There are a further 16 members on 20.

The casting pool

ACF releases 2014 program of events

The Australian Casting Federation (ACF) has released its schedule of events for the 2014 season. As in previous years the syllabus includes four rounds of the Brunn Shield team event as well as a number of special tournaments hosted by various clubs. Round 1 of the Brunn Shield is being staged by the Sunshine Fly Club at the Red Tag pool in Fairfield on 4 May. The four round series concludes on 3 August at the Southern Fly Fishers pool at Highett Reserve.

The special events in 2014 include the Jack Joyner Trophy, Cock of the Walk, Jack Miles Trophy Ron Callaghan Anti-Cancer event and Ron Masson Trophy

This year's Australian Casting Championships will be staged over the weekend of 7 and 8 June at a venue to be confirmed. Northern Suburbs Fly Fishing Club (NSFFC) will host the 2014 Victorian Casting Championships on 24 and 25 May.

There is also the Turville Shield and Herb Jenkins team events as well as the Northern, Southern, Geelong and Red Tag open competitions.

In 2013 the NSFFC casting team performed exceptionally well at all of the events on the ACF calendar. A highlight was the club winning the Brunn Shield for the fourth year in a row. It was also exciting to watch the development of young casters Brynn Farkas and Lachlan Dyer who put in some very strong performances on the casting platform.

Club members were in excellent form at last year's Australian Championships with John Waters, Brynn Farkas and John Kruska claiming the top three places in the overall Champion of Champions category. Throughout the year John Kruska won the Cock of the Walk, Brynn Farkas the Red Tag Open as well as individual honours at the Geelong Open, while Lachlan Dyer collected the Jack Joyner Trophy.

All NSFFC members, regardless of casting ability, are encouraged to enter ACF events and to join the Northern casting team. Apart from the camaraderie you'll enjoy at the events and support for your casting efforts, you'll find that competition casting will greatly improve your fishing.



2014 Australian Casting Federation Syllabus

Date	Event	Location
22 Feb	Northern Lights	Yarrambat
1 Mar	Southern Lights	Highett
16 Mar	Ron Callaghan Shield	Fairfield
23 Mar	Cock of the Walk	tbc
13 Apr	Northern Open	Yarrambat
tbc	NSW Championships	tbc
4 May	Brunn Shield – Round 1	Fairfield
17 May	Jack Miles Trophy	Fairfield
24 May	Victorian Championships	Yarrambat
25 May	Victorian Championships	Yarrambat
1 Jun	Brunn Shield - Round 2	Fairfield
7 Jun	Australian Championships	tbc
8 Jun	Australian Championships	tbc
29 Jun	Australian Plug Titles	tbc
6 Jul	Brunn Shield – Round 3	Yarrambat
13 Jul	Red Tag Open/Herb Jenkins	Fairfield
20 Jul	Southern Open	Highett
3 Aug	Brunn Shield – Round 4	Highett
10 Aug	Jack Joyner/Ron Masson	tbc
17 Aug	Turville Shield	tbc
21 Sep	Geelong Open	tbc

High country highs and lows

by John Smith

What started off as a trip to catch up with an old mate from my army days has become an annual sojourn into the Australian high country to fish some of the iconic streams that the area is famous for — the Geehi, Indi, Swampy Plains, Ogilvies, the list goes on.

My mate Dave was born and raised in the area and his relatives and family friends have properties bordering some fantastic waters, giving us access to sections of river normally off limits to anglers. We were relying on this fact to dispel some of the rumours circulating that the trout fishery is experiencing some tough times at the moment.



It's a long and winding dirt track ... but the river beckons.

After dropping off some groceries at the farmhouse and saying a quick hello, we headed down to the banks of Nariel Creek. The height was perfect for wading and a recent dry spell meant it was running crystal clear — we'll call this 'a high'. The 'go to' fly combination of a #12 stimulator above a Copper John nymph is normally very reliable, but the first couple of runs and pools Dave and I shared offered up nothing — we'll call this 'a low'. Finally a smallish rainbow scoffed the dry and we had a run on the board — we'll count this as a high!

A few pools later a normally dependable spot met with a text book refusal as an okay brown drifted back watching the fly but made no attempt to eat it — we'll definitely call that a low. A couple of changes of flies confirmed Dave's comment that this particular fish just wasn't interested. On went 'go to' fly number two, a Parachute Adams, and we continued to fish together pool for pool, run for run. There is a reason David Dodd uses a Parachute Adams, they work, and after working a shallow run a small rainbow came to hand — a high.

We continued fishing until we came to a large pool just on dusk. With black spinners and a healthy amount of caddis coming off the water we were sure we'd get a good rise from what is normally another reliable pool, it didn't happen — a low! On the way back to the car we stopped and chatted to the property owner Wayne, who was happy to take a quick break from cutting hay



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Not a bad fishing shack — Keeble's Hut was built in 1948 in just six weeks as a summer fishing retreat.

and say g'day. Although not a keen fisherman he mentioned that local reports indicated the season had been slow to fire — hmm, we'll call that a low.

Next morning we headed into the mountains, intending to fish the Geehi and perhaps the top of the Swampy. I've never been to this part of the high country, so Dave suggested we have a quick look at Keeble's Hut. He explained his uncle Arthur Nankervis and his wife Flo held the grazing lease for the area and had the hut built both as farm accommodation and fishing shack as they were both keen fly fishers.

The camp grounds and access spots to the Geehi and Swampy were packed, so after giving Dave's new Ford Ranger a bit of a workout on a river crossing and 4x4 tracks we decided to head up to Jindabyne. Checking out this part of the world was definitely a high.

We had a quick look around the Gaden Trout Hatchery, however the sight of large browns mooching in the clear water of the 'closed to fishing' hatchery stream was too much to bear so we headed into Jindabyne to check out High Country Outfitters before hitting the Thredbo River for an 'arvo' session. Advice from the Outfitters staff was the season had been slow, but the fish that were taken were good quality. The trick was to fish nymphs on long fine leaders and to get them as deep as possible. After rigging up in the Skitube car park we walked a couple of kilometres down stream before fishing back towards the car.

Once on the water I soon heard a splash from a



This image adorns the wall inside Keeble's Hut. The plaque reads: Caught by Mrs A Nankervis, 11 Feb 54 on dry Scott Jock. Weight 8lbs 14ozs, actual size.

fish that rose beside me in the fast water. I turned my head and saw another good splash again — so much for feeding deep! I covered the fish with the stimulator, saw it disappear in a swirl and immediately felt good weight as I struck. As quick as it started it was over. Thinking I'd pulled the hook from the fish's mouth, I recast only to discover I'd managed to break the fish off at the leader — a bloody big low!

Dave has a more deft approach to playing fish and this saw him stay connected to a nice rainbow in the 2lb class — that's a high for sure.

Sunday was planned to be the pinnacle (literally) of this year's trip, with a hike into the upper Tumut River at the base of Mount Jagungal. Arriving at the car park we were a tad disappointed to find quite a number of cars, but on closer inspection the bike racks indicated they probably weren't fishermen. We rigged up, signed the log book at the track access gate and headed into the wilderness, confident of a productive day on the water. Definitely a high!

About half way down to the river we came across a ski hut. These rudimentary structures are dotted across the high country and have been providing emergency shelter for summer hikers and cross-country skiers for years. It amazes me how people managed to haul the materials for these shacks into the rugged places they're built upon.

The upper Tumut River flows through pristine but rugged alpine terrain. There are no trees to provide shade or bank-side cover and the gin clear water flows over freestone rubble with larger boulders strewn throughout its length. There are pools and glides with some faster shallower runs mixed in with large deep pools. Some have steep gorge-like banks providing excellent vantage points to polaroid for wary fish. The access trail allows you to survey the river for about the last 15 minutes of the walk into the valley — the river almost teasing you to break into a jog to get down into it and start casting!

Up close the river looked perfect, another high, and as quickly as we could Dave and I spread out along the first runs. After half an hour fishing I cast into the fast water at the head of the pool and the stimulator quickly disappeared. This first offering of the day wasn't big but it was a fish and it was in good condition. Another high!

Dave caught up and was a bit surprised the pool he fished returned nothing. He didn't see or spook a fish from what should have been a good



John Smith's mate Dave with a nice mountain stream rainbow.



run. We fished pool for pool, run for run, and leapfrogged for a couple of hours but produced zip which had us both puzzled. A low perhaps?

I came around the bend and the long flat pool opened up before me. It was way too deep to wade so I cautiously made my way along the button grass lined edge. Each cast slowly drifted back towards me unmolested. I considered taking the dry/nymph rig off and tying on a woolly bugger to strip through the deep hole. But I'm a lazy 'fisho' and the thought of retying knots seemed like a pain so I walked on a little further and cast towards the top of the run. It took a second to realise the bright white triangular shape was the open mouth of a sizable trout and before I knew it the stimulator disappeared and line tore off the reel as the fish headed for the top of the run. I managed to



"F#%\$ the GoPro!!!" — John Smith with a beautiful 52cm and 3lb brown trout. It was a new personal best for an Australian river.

turn him only to see the fish speed back past me with the fly line hissing through the water and throwing up spray. The fish held for a while at the tail of the pool and this gave me a chance to clamber along the bank and get some line back on the spool. He then made a couple of determined runs for the far side bank. Deciding discretion is the better part of valour, I called Dave on the two-way radio to come and give me a hand to net it.

Nice fish he commented and asked was the GoPro camera on as he unclipped my net. "F#%\$ the GoPro!!!" I fumbled with the remote to turn the blasted thing on and hopefully record the capture on video. I was relieved when Dave finally slid the net over the brown's head — 52cm and 3lb of high country trout was certainly a high.

After a quick bank-side lunch we headed further upstream hoping to tangle with more of the same. However the afternoon session turned out to be tougher than the morning and try as we might we couldn't raise a fish to the dry or tempt one with our nymphs. The closest we came was discovering the skeletal remains of a very big trout's head dried out on the riverbank. A low!

With an arduous walk ahead of us and no fish to hold us on the river, we made the decision to head back to the car and try to get back to the Swampy for what we hoped would be a productive evening rise.

We made it back to the Swampy just on dusk, but the seven cubic metres per second (cms) of wadeable flow from the morning had turned into a 39cms raging torrent. So much for the evening rise. What is it with water authorities and drastic changes in release flows? We'll chalk that up as a low.

All too quickly it was Monday morning and after packing up and paying the rent we made our way down to Bringenbrong. Dave's cousin is the current owner of this historic station. We dropped off a bottle of 'Christmas cheer' and chatted for a while, lamenting the fact the river had risen higher to 41cms. Assured that the



The skeletal remains of the head of what must have been a very large trout.

river was still fishable at this level we bade our farewells and made our way down to the access bridge.

At 41cms we were restricted to the edges of the river. Swinging nymphs down and across seemed to be the best option and it payed off with a smallish fish taking the point Copper John. A high.

Although the fish weren't as plentiful as the year before, a trip to this part of the world can only be classed as a high and a personal best fish will always be so too. Dave and I have pencilled in next year's dates and I'm looking forward to it already.



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Surprisingly, this stunning mountain stream failed to produce a fish for either John or Dave,



A typical high country hut.



Dave searching his pack ... or perhaps praying that John would be fit enough to walk out.

The tying bench

13 March – Rod's version of the Craig's Nighttime

The Craig's Night time is an all time favourite fly for fly fishers in both Australia and New Zealand — particularly those who like to fish at night as the name suggests. It was developed in 1930 for fishing Lake Taupo. In Australia it is particularly popular on Lake Eucumbene and Lake Jindabyne. Closer to home the fly is also revered as a big fish catcher on the Lake Eildon Pondage and other lakes throughout Victoria. It can also be fished in rivers, especially slow pools. The fly can be fished at all depths and keen users of this fly will often have numerous versions at various weights. But what does it represent? Many say it is a mud-eye and when tied without lead it will travel high in the water column and so could represent dragonfly larvae. In New Zealand it is regarded as a crayfish imitation. Regardless of why fish take it it is one of the best all round searching night patterns for trout. It can be fished with all types of retrieves, but a popular method is to let it sink right down and use a very slow retrieve. This fly is traditionally tied with a black chenille body, red wool tag and silver tinsel rib. In the photo (right) Rod Humphreys has tied one with an orange body, a bit of flash and a red head.



Craig's Nighttime

Hook: 10 wet

Thread: 6/0 black

Tail: small tag of wool

Body: orange (or black) chenille

Wing: 3 or 4 pukeko breast feathers

27 March – Rod's version of the Stick Caddis

Stick caddis are a very important food source for trout. There are numerous fly patterns that represent stick caddis, but this one is both easy to tie and very effective. It is often fished in tandem with a gold bead head nymph on rivers. It is also very effective in lakes where it can be fished under a dry fly, as a dropper from a wet fly fished very slowly, or as a single nymph fished very slowly using a floating line. A key variation in Rod's version is a soft hackle.



Stick Caddis

Hook: size 12

Thread: black 6/0

Body: peacock herl

Hackle: soft golden brown hen (optional)

Head: yellow plastic bead

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
23rd January 2014

7:45 pm – 8:20 pm

Apologies: John Smith, Cain Polidano

Visitor: Finley Maccoll, Dane Maccoll, Clint Palmer

Minutes

Minutes from the previous General Meeting were read by the Secretary and seconded by Eric Smith - Carried

Business Arising

- ❖ Nil

Treasurer's Report

- ❖ Approximately \$3 684.
- ❖ Treasurer's Report read on a motion from Chris Dabal and seconded by Daniel Bowwman - Carried

Business Arising

- ❖ Nil.

Correspondence

As per correspondence register

Syllabus

- ❖ Fly Tying – John Smith – Beanbag emerger
- ❖ Jamieson River trip – 15 – 16 Feb 14
- ❖ Northern Lights – 22 Feb 14
- ❖ Kevington Trip – 8 – 10 Mar
- ❖ Fishing Reports
 - Pat Sheridan & John Smith hiked into the Big River. Some nice fish were caught however compared to previous trips the numbers were down significantly.
 - Ray Cresp advised that it was hard fishing in Tasmania. There were days when they couldn't find a fish and the conditions were good. Woods Lake fired up and a nice 5lber was caught on Penstock. Little Pine also fished well.
 - John Kruska fished the Australian Championships. He noted that with one exception, no angler picked up a fish from Woods. Chris Bassano caught 6. There were 5 sessions and one angler caught 39 fish in three hours during the river session. The winner was 18 yo Josh Flower.
 - Alf gave a brief but interesting report on their trip to Tasmania.
- ❖ General Business
 - Club survey – please provide responses
 - Club merchandise – shown and cost discussed
 - ACF News
 - Syllabus is out and will be put on the web site shortly. Requested a change of date for the Northern Open however this was declined as it clashed with our trip.
 - CVFFC News – nothing heard
 - General Discussion
 - General discussion on security of vehicles.
 - Welcomed Flyfinz.
- ❖ Meeting Closed