



## 2018 Jan Newsletter

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**Secretary** – Tony Ward

**Treasurer** – Wayne Hunt

**Newsletter Editor** – Jeff Yates

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Brent Blackwell

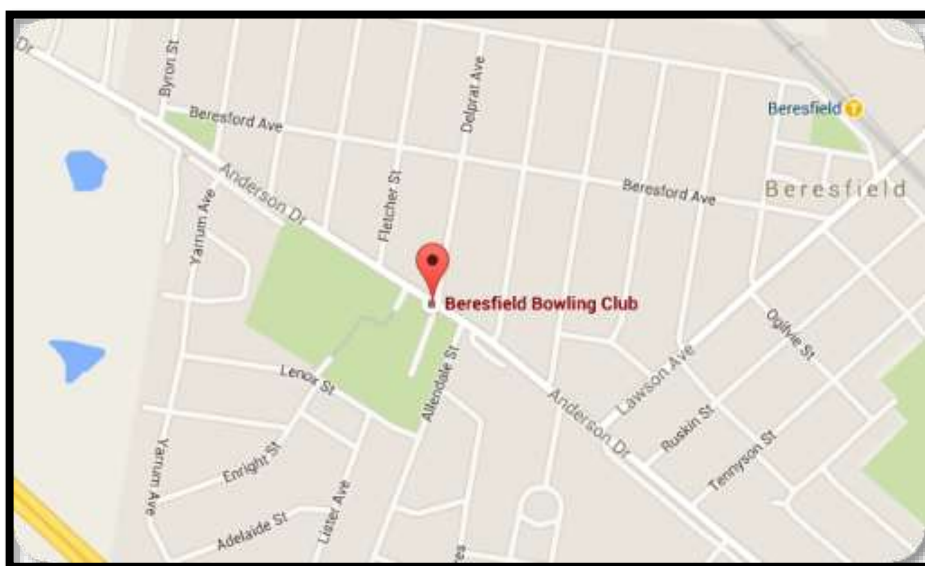
Jeff Yates

Noel King

Rob Probert

Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at:-

Beresfield Bowling Club  
Anderson Drive  
Beresfield  
At 6.30pm



## *Editor's comments*

Jeff Yates



I'm sending the newsletter out a little early this month just to prod those wanting to go to either the fly tying day or Jimmys Beach to contact the trip masters as soon as possible so that they can plan the events. All that you have to do is make a decision and phone, whereas they have to plan, organise and supervise the events, which includes supplying the correct quantities of food for numbers attending. I have included the information emailed out to you in this newsletter in case you missed it.

I had a couple of trips to Thompsons Creek over the Christmas and New Year period and have written the trips up for those that may be interested in going over some time. Do yourself a favour and check it out if you haven't been over there before, you won't be disappointed, just ask Fiona and Ray, who joined me on my last trip.

If you need any advice on electric motor overhauls for your boat contact Lawrence, he knows them inside out, and he has a few spare parts to sell off as well. See his entertaining article inside.

Darren has a great article on bread flies.

## *President's Report*



Welcome all to the club's first Newsletter for 2018.

I hope everyone and their families enjoyed their Christmas and New Year breaks and you all stayed safe.

The club's first outing for the New Year will be at Lawrence and Cherie's where we will be tying saltwater flies in preparation for Tom's Hawks Nest outing in February. The day will conclude with a sumptuous lunch prepared by Lawrence and Cherie. Last year was an exceptional turn-out for a non-fishing event. The company was great and hopefully some of the Sydney members may turn up again too.

February will see a return to Hawks Nest and Tom will be putting on a prawn and chicken kebab night with an Hawaiian theme so wear your loudest flowery shirt to win a prize ((supplied by Tom) and no it's not a jar of his award-winning honey either).

Hopefully, probably by the time this newsletter is out I will have more info on the Bass release which should be happening very soon. I will keep you all informed as I find things out.

I am looking forward to catching up with everyone at the next meeting on the 07<sup>th</sup> February at Bero Bowlo, See you all there.

Enjoy the newsletter and remember if you have an interesting story, a tasty recipe for cooking your catch or a fly recipe you wish to share please forward to the Newsletter Editor Jeff Yates.

Cheers  
Darren Foster  
President 2018

# 2018 Calendar



Month	Date	Venue/Event	Trip Master	Contact Number
January	20 <sup>th</sup>	Saltwater Fly Tying with Lawrence & Cherie	Lawrence B.	0432989797
February	07 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
February	16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Hawks Nest - Saltwater	Tom Jones	0406662713
February				
March	07 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
March		Forster Fly Muster – Day Trip	Darren	0413392774
March				
April	04 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
April		Windamere	Chris Moloney	0422144382
April				
May	02 <sup>nd</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
May				
May				
June	06 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
June	TBA	Lake St Clair - Bass		
June				
July	04 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
July	TBA	Lake St Clair - Bass		
July				
August	01 <sup>st</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
August	TBA	Swansea Salmon Slam		
August	TBA	RISE Film Festival – Bero Bowlo	Darren	0413392774
September	05 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
September	TBA	Hastings	Lawrence	0432989797
October	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
October				
November	TBA	Club AGM Meeting @ 5.30pm	All	
November				
December	5 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
December	TBA	Christmas Dinner	Lawrence/Cherie	

## *Jimmys Beach Hawks Nest*

The first club outing for 2018 is coming up on 16th to 18th February at Jimmys Beach Hawks Nest. Accommodation is once again at Jimmys Beach Caravan park.

Unpowered campsites are \$32.00 per night based on 2 people. The sites are large enough to fit 2 tents on.

Powered sites for those with caravans/ camper vans, are \$38.00 per night based on 2 people.

There is 1 cabin available which will sleep 4 adults and the price is \$170.00 per night based on 2 people. Extra people are \$20.00 per person per night.

For those who are camping the site numbers to book to keep our group together are between 166 and 172. Unfortunately the vacant powered sites are a bit of a distance from the camping area.

As in previous Jimmys Beach outings each member will need to book their own accomodation. The phone number for Jimmys Beach Caravan park is 02 4997 0466.

6wt or 8wt rod floating or intermediate line should do the trick. And a good old clouser tied on to the tippet. Or dont take my word for it be game with a bit of imagination.

Those taking boats there are 2 main boat ramps. The first opposite the Police Station in Marine Drive Tea Gardens. The second is near the bridge in Moira Parade Hawks Nest.

Those taking kayaks can use either of the boat ramps or a few spots along The Anchorage. A suggestion from last year was to launch the kayaks at Mungo Brush 20 mins drive north of Hawks Nest. As Mungo Brush is in the National Park we may need a day permit/ pass.

### ***The tides for the weekend are:***

<b>Friday</b>	Low 1650	High 2303
<b>Saturday</b>	Low 1723	High 1112
<b>Sunday</b>		High 1147

On Saturday night we are going to have an Hawaiian themed prawn night. For those who don't eat prawns we will have some chicken kebabs to bbq up.

Where the Hawaiian theme comes into it is we would like our members to dig out their Hawaiian shirts and wear them on the night and we will have some prizes for the loudest shirts. I'll bring my ukulele and attempt to play it to add to the theme.

As we are doing the prawn night we will need to know numbers who will be attending within the next couple of weeks so that we can order the prawns and food.

If you are definitely coming could you please email me so that I can get a list started.

Hope to see you at Jimmys Beach.

**Tom Jones - Trip Master**

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## *Fly Tying Day*

The first fly tying event of 2018 will be held on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> January at 59 Skye Point Rd, Coal Point. Starting around 10am with lunch provided at 1pm, come along and tie your favourite fly or some saltwater flies for Tom's Hawks Nest outing next month.

Please reply if you are able to come so Cherie and I can organise the catering, if you have any questions please call Cherie on 0410 555 019.

Lawrence and Cherie  
0432 989 797



## *Electric Motor 'Attempted' Overhaul*

Lawrence Blackburn

How hard can it be, throughout my electrical apprenticeship I have stripped down many motors, replaced the bearings and put them back together and back into service. AC motors are easier than DC motors as there are no brushes to hold back from the armature prior to re-assembly, but the principle is much the same.



I brought my saltwater electric second-hand about ten years ago, and after each outing I cleaned the motor down to remove all saltwater and gave it a light spray of CRC226 which helps remove any residue.

Over the last few months I have noticed that the prop was starting to get harder and harder to spin freely, in fact of the five speeds the motor would only turn on the two highest speeds. My assumption was that the bearings and/or seals were old and possibly moisture had got in and was starting to rust and seize the rotor. So a quick search on the internet for an overhaul kit and I found one in the US for \$14.95 (including postage and conversion

about \$35 AU), which included all seals, bearings and new brushes, everything required for a full overhaul.

Not having a proper bearing puller at home, I browsed the net and the local ISP had them for around two hundred dollars, I thought for now, I might hold off on that purchase.

I had the kit and managed to find an exploded view of the motor online, which was duly printed out to aid in reassembly.

*What could possibly go wrong?*



First step remove the prop, a plastic nut on the back of the motor unscrewed and the prop slid off, which became the easiest part of the whole job.



Upon removal there was clear evidence of rust around the shaft so I felt justified that I was on the right track with the overhaul.



Prior to removing the stator (the big outside round bit) I put a small mark on the body so I could align it on reassembly to the correct position.



Removing the pin that spins the prop took about half an hour as it was rusted into the shaft, copious amounts of lubricant and a 1/8<sup>th</sup> pin punch and finally it came out.



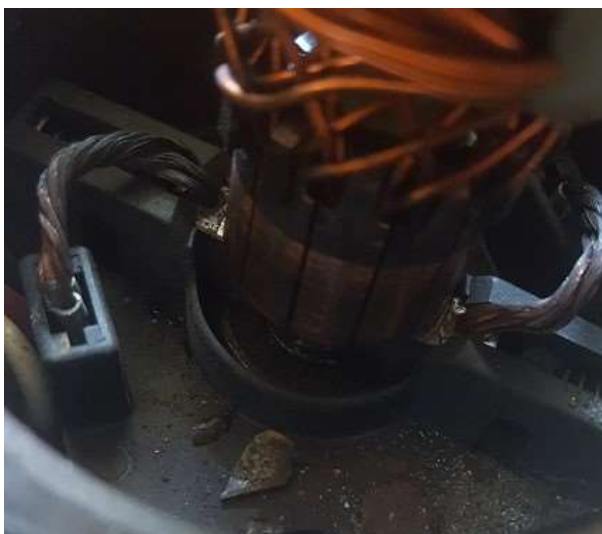
Now the moment of truth, after removing the pin, the end cap came off quite easily, I carefully removed a succession of washers and thrust washer making sure I kept them in the correct order for reassemble with the new parts.

Now I looked into the end of the motor and noticed one of the outside permanent magnets was cracked, hmmm, this is not a good sign, I slowly slid the stator off the

armature and sure enough was left with a handful of broken magnets from the inside of the stator, somehow I think the end is neigh for this electric motor.



The springs, brushes and rotor all look to be in good condition, which in reality, is little compensation as without the permanent magnet the rest are just spare parts.



So a quick investigation is required to determine what caused this failure and if it could have been avoided, and how do I

convince Cherie that I now need considerable money to purchase a new saltwater electric motor (maybe a birthday present in May), hmmm the challenges ahead.

Looking at the rotor, marks on the surface indicate that it had been rubbing on the broken magnet for some time, this is something that has been progressively getting worse over time.



Looking at the front section of the stator there is significant rust which has grown under the magnets and forced them off the body and onto the rotor, shattering them at the same time.



The culprit it would seem is the front seal (adjacent), which was located between the stator and front body, as you can see the bottom of the seal shows evidence of moisture ingress, and that's all it took.



**For Sale:** Overhaul kit to suit Minn Kota 36lb thrust 3 1/4" diameter body, still in original bag, also lots of spare parts for same!!!!

*Hey Cherie, have you thought about my birthday present yet.....?*



.....

## *The Humble Bread Fly*

By Darren Foster

Bread flies can be made from many different white materials; from foam, deer hair, wool and various dubbing materials to good old rabbit fur, which is usually in the form of a zonker strip.

Briefly going out on a tangent here; zonker strips are cut with the grain (or fur) so you end up with a strip of hide with the fur in line with the strip and are used in patterns such as various zonker minnows for Trout, Bass and Bream right up to large patterns for cod; cross-cut strips are cut across the grain (or fur) and are commonly used for collars on flies such as the Pink Thing or collars on the bigger cod flies.

Now, bread flies can be used to target a variety of fish such as Bream, Garfish, Carp, Mullet and Silver Perch and the focus of this article is on the last two of those targets. You can use bread flies in conjunction with bread burly or on their own as a stand-alone pattern all depending on the target species and their particular feeding habits at the time.



Over the break I got out for a bit of a flick at the Bass without any luck. Then I tried the carp but they were hiding as well. This was when I saw the mullet splashing about so with a whole new game plan I arrived late in the day at Wallis Creek, Buchanan, burled up with a couple of slices of bread (multigrain – yes that's right, multigrain – not white) and the fun began.



**Sometimes, the #14's can even catch fish as big as their selves**

Fishing for Silvers using bread flies is very similar to Mullet fishing, a bit of burley, a #14 white rabbit fur bread fly thrown in for good measure and away you go. Sometimes you may need to allow the fly to sink a bit before working the fly very slowly and at other times the strike will be within seconds of the fly hitting the water. The strikes can be quite savage too with the bigger models capable of breaking you off if they catch you unawares.



### **Rabbit Fur Bread Fly**



**Hook:** #14 to 12 dry fly hook for Mullet and Silvers (go larger/heavier – #8 up to 6 for Bream or Carp)

**Thread:** White

**Body:** White rabbit fur

#### **Notes:**

Simply cut a small clump of fur from a zonker strip and tie on behind the eye. A small dab of superglue on the thread will help make the fly more durable. Squashing the barb down on your flies will make the hook removal that much easier. Especially with the Silvers as I found most of the hook-ups were in the hinge of the mouth.

I fished with a 3-4 weight 6'2" rod (used to be 6'6" but that's another story), a 3# floating line, a 6lb leader with 4lb tippet for the Mullet and straight-through 6lb leader for the Silvers. Standout fly size for both fish was the #14 fly.

Silver Perch are omnivorous so don't be frightened to try a small nymph either. Contrary to popular belief they do not change exclusively to herbivores.



## *Celebrating Christmas at Thommos*

Jeff Yates

Dad is only 4 years off a century, and not up to travelling, so Christmas will travel to him in the weather beaten town of Kandos. The town was build the year my dad was born, 1922, to service the newly commissioned Kandos Cement works. Since then the local mine and cement works have closed their doors leaving a town of 1200 people with no employment, but it does have a great nearby native fish population, and not too far from what I consider the best trout fishery in NSW, Thompson's Creek Dam.

One has to always consider the spouse when taking them on a trip. "No, it's not a fishing trip," I get reminded as I carefully pack my waders, boots, vest and rod, trying not to make them too conspicuous among the presents, food and luggage. I did want to take the yak to target natives, but *she who must be obeyed* will not drive my 4x4, so into the wee Peugeot and chase trout instead.

A couple of days in Kandos, and I had voices in my head telling me to visit the brother-in-law in Lithgow, and when I discussed it with Lyn, she jumped at the offer. I threw in my fishing gear just in case I had an opportunity. However, the trip will only be a day trip, as I need to be back in Kandos later to check on Dad.

We headed down the Mudgee road towards Lithgow, an 80 minute run during double demerit time. I arrived mid-afternoon and did the greeting thing with relies, pigged out on leftover Christmas pudding and played games with a house full of kids. The whole time voices were telling me that the fish were impatiently awaiting my arrival at Thommos.

I think I had done my bit for Christmas spirit, and as it's getting on toward 6 o'clock, I excused myself and departed for the dam. The last words I heard as I departed were *to get back before dark so we can dodge the roo's on the way back to Kandos*. "Yes my dear", I answered as I burnt rubber down the drive. As if I would leave an evening rise.....



I fell out of the car into the waders, got dressed on the run, while also putting the rod together. With the spare hand I took a shot of the sign at the front gate for those not familiar with the dam.

I am now in focused mode, head down for the 4km hill climb to my favoured fishing spot. With the strong nor easterly wind, most places are wind swept, but the wind can also work in your favour. I was able to get to a point where the wind blew past and formed a vortex within a line cast around me. This void was slowly attracting wind born insects and the anticipation grew.

What fly do I use? It is now 7 o'clock, still plenty of daylight as we have just departed from the summer solstice. In my haste, I left my dry flies back in the car boot, but maybe the Churchie will double as a Bogan, grasshopper or Christmas beetle.



I dabbed a little floatant onto the deerhair head and put out a fair wind assisted cast. Enticingly, I worked the fly in towards the bank, when the water boiled just in front of me. My last vision of the broaching brown was the tippet over the top of the head and the Churchie being propelled skywards; bugger, lined a nice fish on my first cast.....

Anyway, put that down to a near miss, try again.



With the last of the sunlight slowly ebbing over the westerly hills, I had a solid take. The rod arched as an energetic rainbow stripped line from the Orvis reel. A spirited fight ensued, and I was determined to capture it on camera, so, while fighting the fish from the reel drag, I removed the camera from the backpack, and aimed it at the fish. I got the last sight of him as he straitened the hook on his way to freedom. Two down, what next?



A couple of kangaroos joined me at the water, and I could hear the chuckle as I continued into the evening with another cast.



Being conscious of the time and seeing plenty of evidence of last night's arrivals on the sticks around the edges, I beefed up slightly on the line diameter and went to two flies. I added a rabbit and ostrich to the point, confident that this and the Churchie combination will do the trick.

It was now twilight, and my anticipation turned to exhilaration as I nailed another rainbow, but in my eagerness, I somehow lost contact with the fish and he threw the fly. That's it I muttered, as I downed tools and packed up for the trudge back to the car. I incurred the wrath of the spouse for getting back late, but worst of all were the roos jumping into the headlights all the way back to Kandos.

## *New Year on Thommos*

Jeff Yates



*Thommos  
on sunset*

So what does one do when a fishing trip shows promise but is fishless? Organise another one of course, and invite your friends. I sent out a club invitation and was joined by Fiona and Ray at Thompsons Creek car park. I forewarned them of the possibility of snow, sleet or just a freezing night, having suffered the week before on a 4 degree night. This warning was comical, when we were confronted by the hottest night of summer so far, truly a T shirt night.

We had a 5km walk in to the back of the dam, with the temperature still in the mid 30's and my aging body absolutely feeling every step. We set up for an evening rise and were excited with a couple of early risers. A large fish of many pounds porpoised in the rippled waters just beyond reach, sucking up the last of the wind-blown fiery brown gum beetles. Meanwhile both Ray and Fiona were covering rising fish closer in.

Ray hooked a well-conditioned little rainbow and released it. He was on a muddler pattern, and all 3 of us were fishing with similar floating flies. Fiona hooked a nice fish and landed it, followed by another, only bigger. A couple more takes and losses and us men (me in particular) were starting to feel inadequate.



As luck would have it, I was able to redeem myself just after dark with a rainbow and a brown. This area of the dam looked spectacular, with its closely cropped, almost bowling green

grass verges, which continued into the crystal clear water and formed a underwater green jungle full of active aquatic life.

We had a ball, and every fish was accompanied by photos, backslapping and great banter, however, the hope of a mudeye hatch was fading. We decided to move to another section of the dam to see if there was a hatch elsewhere.

After a rough 20 minute walk by headlamp, with the occasional tame roo skipping through the lamp beam, we arrived at the next destination. All was quiet, no chomping sound of feeding fish, what a bummer. I left Ray and Fiona at the bottom of the bay and walked along to give them some space.

No sooner was I stripping out line ready to cast, when a roar of excitement erupted from the darkness. I enquired about size, and I got a favourable reply, so I high tailed it back to my mates. Fiona was hooked into an epic brown and fought it like the champion angler that she is. After

some time and coaxing to get it back to the shore, where it was swept up in the net for closer admiration.

This 650mm well-conditioned brown was the climax of the night, and with a bit of persuasion by Ray, the fish swam off for another day. The moon climbed quickly over the horizon, and with some regret, we decided to leave the dam to beat the 3 hour evening curfew.

After a tiring walk back to the car, we celebrated with a cuppa and trail snacks before heading back to our respective digs at Lithgow. Luckily the celebration was non-alcoholic, as an officious local police officer chased me down and put me on the breathalyser.

I really enjoyed being able to share the night, and my fishing spot with friends, but the super-hot weather put an end to any more meaningful fishing for the next couple of days. Anyway, farewell Thommos and hope to revisit again in the not too distant future, and I'm sure I will get a couple of eager volunteers to join me.





*Glenbawn Carp*  
**Brent Blackwell**

I was fishing with Glenn Olney on Glenbawn Dam. It was between Christmas and New Year. As we were travelling slowly, we had plenty of time to observe the lake. The carp were jumping early in the mornings. We saw beetles drifting on the surface. Soon we saw the occasional carp rising and taking these beetles from the surface. The carp were not eating in groups so this would be a slow place to fish. The opportunity to use a floating line and some beetle patterns to catch carp exists. This maybe a challenge, so let's take up a new opportunity.





## *Fishy Pics*



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*Lovely brown being revived prior to release at  
Thompsons Creek Dam*

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# *Scape Pics*



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*Sunset on the water*

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*HVFFC members wish to “thank you”  
SPONSORS*

*Check out Sydney Fly Outfitters and Guiding on-line shop*



*Tie flyer extraordinaire, check out Paul's website  
for your favourite fly*