



2018 Mar Newsletter

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Peter Sewell

Brent Blackwell

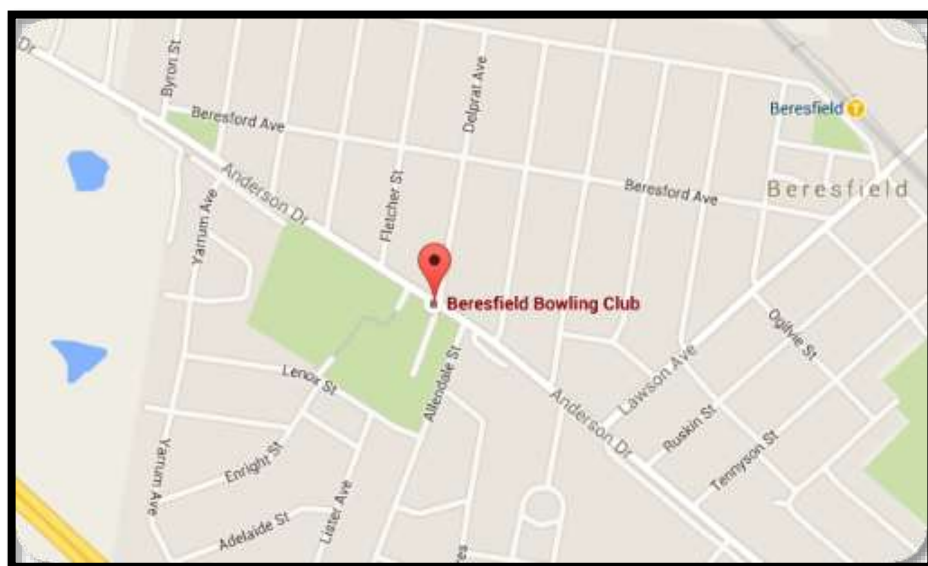
Jeff Yates

Noel King

Rob Probert

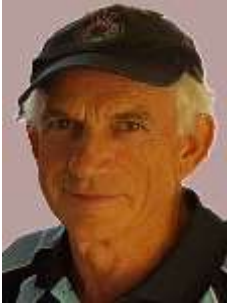
Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club meets on
the first Wednesday of each month at:-

Beresfield Bowling Club
Anderson Drive
Beresfield
At 7.00 pm



Editor's comments

Jeff Yates



Welcome to the March edition of our club's magazine.

Cherie has requested that those going to the Salmon Classic book your accommodation before the end of the month as the Park will not hold sites after this date. I'm all excited about the prospects for the weekend, and I'm sure it will rival the old Carp Bash at Liddell for popularity.

The Fly Muster was a hell of a success again this year with a report that follows.

This year I cancelled a trip to Eucumbene after 25 odd years of fishing at the same time each year. Recent years have seen limited, poor conditioned fish, but worst of all is the lack of vegetation, both on land and in the water. It looks more and more like a cattle dam. A big drawdown of water over winter and spring for hydro generation, has not given the riparian and aquatic vegetation time to adapt to receding level. My colleagues from Lithgow stuck with it and caught a couple of fish, meanwhile over at Jindabyne we managed quite a few fish, all in great condition. Maybe Snowy 2.0 will change Jindabyne as well, but I probably won't be around to see it....

Tom has to be congratulated for his organization of the Jimmy's Beach club trip. Everyone had a great time and his article reflects this view.

Enjoy the read and remember, if you have anything of interest to the club members please forward it to me. I don't mind tidying up your work and adding your pictures, all part of the job.

President's Report



G'day members,

Welcome all to the March Newsletter for 2018.

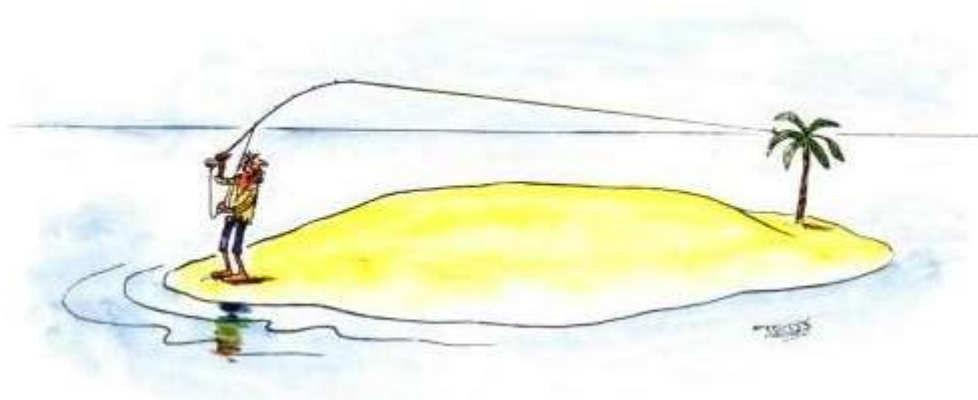
Firstly, welcome to new member Geerhardt (G for short) van Deventer. G has recently moved over to Oz from South Africa and is keen to renew his fly fishing.

The Forster Fly Muster has come and gone for another year and from all reports it was an event not to miss.....bugger.....I missed it. Look out for Mark Schmidt's report highlighted with Cherie and Brett's pics.

The April trip to Wallerawang has now been changed to Lake Lyell. The dates are still the same. Rod Fox will be sending out some info very soon.

The Application to Stock NSW Waters form has been submitted to DPI Fisheries for this year's \$4\$ program. Which leads directly into the Swansea Salmon Slam. Spots are filling fast so let Cherie know as soon as possible.

As discussed at the March meeting, (proposal put forward by the Sydney Chapter), there has been renewed interest in holding a dinner in July again only this time promoted as the Club Awards night. Also, instead of having prizes in the form of vouchers or physical prizes, it was suggested that we have perpetual trophies instead. Just like the Memorable Moments Box. Cherie will be sending out an email to gauge members interest. So think about coming along for a fun filled night and a great catch-up for members.



C'mon, you know we've all been there at one time or another!!!

Scruffy flies and big fish.

Darren Foster

President, HVFFC 2018

2018 Calendar



Month	Date	Venue/Event	Trip Master	Contact Number
January	20 th	Saltwater Fly Tying with Lawrence & Cherie	Lawrence B.	0432989797
February	07 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
February	16 th – 18 th	Hawks Nest – Saltwater	Tom Jones	0406662713
February	20 th	\$4\$ Bass fingerlings release at St Clair	Darren	0413392774
March	07 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
March	TBA	Forster Fly Muster – Day Trip	Darren	0413392774
April	04 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
April	13 th - 15 th	Wallerawang – Lake Wallace	Rod Fox	0407195508
April				
May	02 nd	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
May	12 th	Hunter River – Morpeth (Day Trip)	Darren	0413392774
May				
June	06 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
June	TBA	Lake St Clair - Bass	Peter Sewell	0428685101
June				
July	04 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
July	TBA	Lake St Clair - Bass		
July				
August	01 st	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
August	10 th - 12 th	Swansea Salmon Slam		
August	TBA	RISE Film Festival – Bero Bowlo	Darren	0413392774
September	05 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
September	TBA	Hastings	Lawrence	0432989797
October	3 rd	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
October	5 th – 7 th	Windamere Dam	Chris Moloney	0422144382
November	18 th	Club AGM Meeting @ 5.30pm	All	
November				
December	5 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
December	TBA	Christmas Dinner	Lawrence/Cherie	

Jimmy's beach 2018 report

Tom Jones



I was reading something recently about how Jimmy's Beach got its name. It seems that in the early 1900's there was an American sailor that jumped ship in Sydney (his name believe it or not was Jimmy). Somehow he made his way north and found himself on Jimmy's Beach, built himself a hut, worked in the local sawmills and grew tomatoes and lived happily ever after. The rest is history.

Now what would Jimmy have thought if he came through a time tunnel and arrived at the Hunter Valley Fly Fishing club camp site a couple of weeks ago at Jimmy's Beach. The fly rods are now graphite, kayaks are plastic and some you pedal and some you paddle, small boats are now made out of metal rather than wood and the fly fisher folk now wear Hawaiian shirts rather than Tweed jackets and caps and they feast on prawns.

Jimmy probably would have laughed in disbelief for 10 minutes and said bugger this I'm going back. This mob is having too much fun!..... And so it was.

This year we saw the majority of the campers arrive on Friday. A couple of people decided to go for a fish on Friday night whilst the remainder stayed at camp

and kept the home fires burning even though we didn't have a fire.

On Saturday it wasn't high tide until mid-morning so most of us got a later start. Peter and Jeff headed out in their kayaks around Jimmy's Beach. Rod D, Chris, Brad and myself headed up river in the yaks. After about an hour of not getting any bumps we arrived at a bay at the back of Hawks Nest.



Peter in the bay with Tomaree behind

Whilst we were stretching our legs we noticed the mullet jumping around. Brad took some bread pieces out to see if he could entice them to have a go but they weren't interested. We then fished on but nothing looked promising.

After a couple of more hours I left the boys and started heading back. The boys then hooked into some mullet and Brad landed a nice bream. I ran into Peter and Jeff on the way down. They were fishless in their pursuit of wayward kingfish from the damaged fish farm.

The fish that will be remembered from this weekend is Darren's toad fish which perfectly fitted across his reel.



Darren's big catch

Tallis took out the prize for the loudest shirt. I think if ever Tallis is planning on going to a Beach Boys concert he will blend in quite well. Jeff and Brad came in equal second.

Thanks to everyone who came along and a big thanks to those who helped with the clean up on Saturday night and Sunday. I wonder how loud the shirts will be next year.



Fiona caught tailor

Saturday afternoon things started turning colourful as our mighty team members gradually returned from having a shower and donning their new club-Hawaiian shirts. Even our neighbours next door were suitably impressed. The prawns were enjoyed, before Patrick set to work on the BBQ to cook up the kebabs. Patrick slaved away cooking for quite a while so a big thanks to Patrick for helping with this.



Tom and Patrick cooking up a feast



Brad with a bream



Jindabyne
Jeff Yates



Completed in 1967 as part of the Snowy Mountains hydro scheme, Lake Jindabyne receives water from the Snowy, Thredbo and Eucumbene rivers. When needed, water is pumped from the lake into a tunnel then via the Murry Power Stations to generate power for eastern Australia. The crew of Tony, Ian, Peter, Darren, Lawrence, Fred and myself keenly anticipated the oncoming action of a week on the Lake and its tributaries.

Our accommodation (The Shed), situated not far from the fabulous Hayshed Bay, where we were able to fish in all but westerly prevailing winds. While hoping to fish with midge patterns, we were disappointed to see low water levels, and the absence of reedy shallows. But, there is always another way to catch a trout, and they must feed.

Hayshed Bay – This deepish bay with well-structured shorelines leading up to flats on the eastern side, is renowned as one of the best fly fishing spots on the lake. While we did a limited amount of polroiding, with not much success, we were able to make it up with night time activities. One particular rocky outcrop had a deep weed bed in front of it which consistently produced fish throughout the week. Regular mud-eye hatches attracted fish, most of which were last season's rainbows, though the occasional big brown would disturb the peace of the night. Fred used his little handmade flies to catch a couple of big fish.

Kangaroo Bay – Situated on the Snowy river arm, this bay lives up to its name with numerous roos feeding on its green shallow flats. Once again, numerous small rainbows inhabited the water, but we were still able to get a few browns during the week. To get there is a 15 minute ride from our improvised boat ramp, and a 20 minute return trip in the late hours under GPS navigation and a few keen sets of eyes.



The Thredbo River – A beautiful river springing from the high ski fields of Thredbo Village, it has Australia's largest trout hatchery called Gaden, where Rainbow, Brown and Brook trout are bred, along with a sprinkling of Atlantic Salmon. Our destination was some kilometres above the hatchery at the Ski Tube access point, where winter skiers are transported via tunnels to Perisher and Blue Cow resorts. The river adjacent to the car park is wide, slow flowing and interspersed with

large granite boulders. We departed in pairs and agreed on a meeting point for a spot of lunch. The river looked exceptional. My fishing buddy Darren, was soon casting at a couple of feisty fish, but the line shy critters soon spooked and we moved on. Not long after we had a hollow from Peter who had just hooked a fine river brown. The photos hardly do the beautiful fish justice, but we all stopped to watch the catch and release with the occasional photo.

A week in the Snowy is just not long enough. It takes a number of days to work out the mood and feeding habits of the fish, and just when it's all coming together, we have to depart. On the last night Fred and Peter landed a couple of nice browns, and the night was so alluring, that we all could have fished till breakfast time, but the 8 hour trip back meant an early departure from Hayshed Bay. All in all we had a successful trip with around 100 fish caught, most of which were returned.



Thredbo



Kangaroo Bay



Fred with 2 nice browns on nymphs

Happy birthday Tony

An Englishman, an Australian and an Irishman had been fishing and, at the end of the day they walked into a pub together.
 They proceeded to buy a pint of Guinness. Just as they were about to enjoy their creamy beverage, a fly landed in each of their glasses and became stuck in the thick head.
 The Englishman pushed his beer from him in disgust.
 The Australian fished the offending fly out of his beer and continued drinking as if nothing had happened.
 The Irishman picked the fly out of his drink, held it out over the beer and yelled, 'Spit it out! Give it back to me, you bastard!'



Fred's got a problem with his 21 foot leader

Forster Fly Muster

Mark Schmidt

The event was held from a meet'n'greet on Friday through to a raffle draw on Sunday and raised more than \$3300 towards The Fly Program, which is a program designed to reduce male suicide. An admirable cause I am sure you would all agree.

For my \$50, I got a nice long sleeve rashy. I also participated in a casting lesson with Peter Morse (now THAT'S something that money can't buy) where I learned that half the power equals all the result. I then 'attempted' to put that into practice on the flats of Lake Wallis, resulting in a smallish flathead.



Peter Morse in action

So what did I learn for weekend? Cast soft and let the 8wt do the job, keep the rod in a 180 degree plane, Christmas Island Specials in tan colour catch flathead, vary the strip to entice a wary flattie into striking, also several awesomely good places to fish in the Forster/Tuncurry area and that my liver needs several days to recover from a flyfishing event. All-in-all, a good outcome (except for my liver: we're currently not on speaking terms).

I would **STRONGLY** suggest that the club make a formal plan to participate in 2019, not only for the benefit of The Fly Program, but also because

- (a) **EVERYONE** gets something out of this weekend
- (b) It's a relatively cheap weekend for a good outcome
- (c) Most of us couldn't afford tutelage from Peter Morse et al
- (d) It's a great way to introduce salt water to dedicated freshies
- (e) You might win a really great prize (I didn't, but Andrew Corkish from Sydney Fly Rodders did, and most of you know his history LOL)

Would I do it again? YES, YES, YES. Have I booked for 2019? YES, YES, YES.

That's the best advertisement I can present.

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Fishy Pics



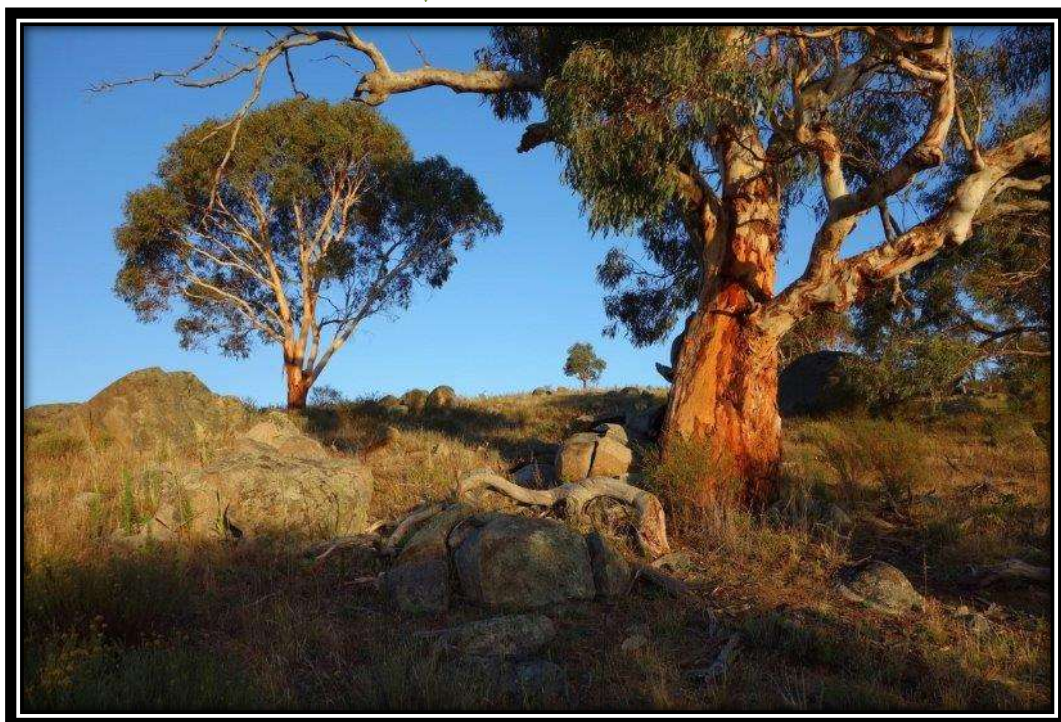
*Fine Thredbo Brown
landed on a Geehi beetle
by Peter*



*Darren's catch
of the day at
Jimmy's Beach*



Scape Pics



*Snow gums
overlooking the
Snowy River arm*



*A frog in a log waiting for
a dragon fly hatch
by Lawrence*



Thredbo at its beautiful best

*HVFFC members wish to “thank you”
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Check out Sydney Fly Outfitters and Guiding on-line shop

