



2018 October Newsletter

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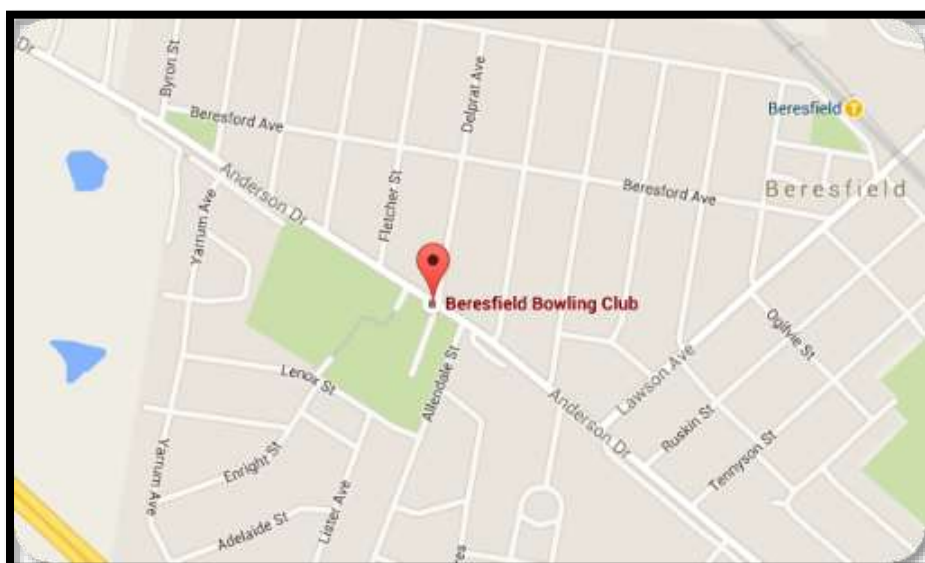
Jeff Yates

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



We start off this month's issue with an article by new member Huon Oliver, giving a critique on the Peter Morse fly casting clinic held at St Clair in conjunction with our club bass outing. I subtly suggested to Huon that the members that didn't attend would love to know what you got out of it and how Peter motivated everyone to achieve their goals. Thanks Huon, for a person without a computer, or even using one at work, you have done a great job. By the way, I have included a picture of Huon in the article holding a brown trout; no it's not from St Clair!

Look out next month for an article on the club bass fishing at St Clair the same weekend. It was our most successful trip yet, and I can't wait to publish it.

Congratulations Patrick and Tallis on Kangaroo Carp Fly Swap. These guys are so motivated, tying before work and during breaks to make some amazing flies. Darren must be congratulated for encouraging Patrick and Tallis the way he does and encouraging participation in such an event. Read all about it in this issue.

Peter travels to Tassie for a week towards the end of November each year and has written an informative story of his last trip. He has been busily tying flies for this year and has a great shot of a Tassie mayfly in the story.

The mop fly was introduced to the bass of St Clair, but I got a surprise bycatch. Anyway, I have done an article on it and included a step-by-step instruction on tying it. Simple as it comes, and the fish seem to like it. I'll temp some yellas on it this weekend at Windermere.

The Tumut team are back up north and Narelle has sent through some photos and a welcome writeup. They had great weather and socializing around the campfire.

Next month look out for Tangus in Africa. He has just returned from an interesting holiday and when all his photos are loaded, we will run a story, but I can't help myself and give you a taste of what is to come.



President's Report



G'day members,

Welcome all to the October Newsletter.

As the water is now starting to warm up, the salmon season is coming to a close and the bream and whiting are coming on the bite. The bass season is warming up nicely too with some excellent catches being reported at St Clair. Apparently, the silvers are fairly active too, it's just a bit of a trick to find the buggers. I haven't had a chance to fish the local rivers much lately but there are a few nice bass and ep's getting caught.

The recent club outing, Chris's trip to St Clair including a casting clinic by Peter Morse was well received with plenty of bass caught, apparently during the casting practice on the water as well. I am looking forward to reading all about it.

There is an article on the Facebook fly swap that some of our members have participated in, I hope you enjoy the read.

The next club meeting in November is the AGM, I am not going to repeat what has already been sent out in a recent email except to say can people that are thinking of attending the meeting please respond to the email so we can plan the meeting accordingly. Time:- 5pm at Lawrence and Cheries with dinner at 6.30pm

It is also that time of the year when we start to think about next year's trips/outings, so get your thinking caps on and let's get planning.



An interesting way of attaching a dropper fly to the lead fly. When tying the fly, add a horizontal loop at the rear of the hook before tying the rest of the fly. You then attach the dropper line to the main fly via a loop-to-loop configuration.

Scruffy flies and big fish.
Darren Foster
President, HVFFC 2018

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
March				
April	04 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
April	13 th –15 th	Lake Lyell	Rod Fox	0407195508
April				
May	02 nd	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
May	12 th	Lake St Clair – Bass, Yellowbelly	Darren	0413392774
May				
June	06 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
June	15 th , 16 th , 17 th	Lake St Clair – Bass, Yellowbelly	Peter Sewell	0428685101
June				
July	04 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
July	14 th	Christmas in July	Cherie	0410555019
July	15 th	Swansea Day Trip (self-cater)	Jeff	0427002766
August	01 st	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
August	10 th , 11 th , 12 th	Swansea Salmon Classic	Cherie	0410555019
August	24 th	RISE Film Festival – Bero Bowlo	Darren	0413392774
September	05 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
September	21 st , 22 nd , 23 rd	Hastings	Lawrence	0432989797
October	3 rd	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
October	6 th —7 th	St Clair – casting day with Peter Morse	Chris M.	0422144382
October	12 th —19 th	Elm Grove Mountain Retreat – Trout	Rod Fox	0407195508
November	18 th	Club AGM Meeting @ 5.00pm – Venue Cherie and Lawrence's place - All	All	
November				
December	5 th	Club Meeting at Bero Bowlo	All	
December				

Peter Morse Clinic

By Huon Oliver



Huon Oliver

Master casting instructor and well known fly fishing identity Peter Morse was invited to the club's October Lake St.

Clair bass trip, to give two days of casting lessons to a handful of HVFFC members. Peter has a well-earned reputation for being an excellent instructor and this showed with his ability to teach fly casters across various levels of skill.

It rained early on, but that did not stop everyone gathering for the first part of the day's lessons. First up was the basic mechanics of a fly cast. Peter ran through straight line and rod tip path, casting stroke vs line length, casting speed and application of power. Peter emphasised he would not comment on "correct" technique in this part of the session because there are many styles of casting. Rather, the focus should be

on finding the style that suits the individual caster or fishing scenario.

We each took turns to cast in front of the group to gauge each person's casting experience. This allowed members to outline what they wanted to achieve with their cast or address troublesome technique issues. I wanted to focus on an issue I've been having with losing power at the very end of the cast and not having the leader unfurl completely. Peter identified the culprit as a small downwards "chop" action I had picked up which was easily corrected. A common issue amongst the participants was over application of power. Peter demonstrated just how little force needs to be applied to the fly rod to cast a fly line, which is far less than you would expect.

After covering the basics of an overhead cast, we headed to the lake to cast in a more realistic fishing situation. Peter covered a very important cast, the roll cast. Although

not always an easy cast it can improve your fishing immensely. I also suspect in this instance it was being used as a teaching method to improve correct loading of the rod. As the lesson was hitting its final stages the bass started to come out to play. Some had tied on bass flies for a 'realistic' casting experience (that was my excuse) and a few bass were pulled from the weed beds during the lesson!

I walked away with a great bits of casting knowledge gold from Peter. I think most people departed with more

efficient casting styles and with a better understanding of the mechanics of a good fly cast. Getting a lesson from someone like Peter can put your casting and fishing giant leaps ahead, quickly. Peter is available for private tuition where he lives in the Blue Mountains and also travels extensively throughout Australia, so he is sure to be swinging by soon.

If you'd like to get in contact with Peter hop over to his website wildfish.com.au. There is also plenty of great fly fishing info up there too.



TASSIE TALES or TASSIE TAILS

Peter Sewell

Trout season is upon us again as I sit here at Jindabyne, contemplating whether to wander out the door fly rod in hand or pin myself to the chair and pen the long-promised note for Jeff and the newsletter. You could say guilt got the better of me or you could say the thought of the next trip to Tasmania has me inspired to put pen to paper or perhaps a bit of both.

Trout fishing in Tas is always an adventure as even if you're going in November you don't know if you are going to get rain, wind, sun or snow. Well OK, you can be pretty sure you'll get wind but from which direction and how strong?

I've been travelling down annually and fishing with a Tassie mate (Peter too or Peter2) for around eight years now and I'm learning that there's lots to like about the Highlands and the pursuit of trout. Although it can sometimes be frustrating it generally rewards with good solid, mainly Brown Trout.



A base in The Arthurs Lake or Great Lakes areas is the way to go and there are well equipped shacks or houses for hire at reasonable rates just for that purpose. In fact, Pete's son Mike has one at Wilburville, right near Arthurs lake dam wall and boat ramp, it's a new build and Michael's family holiday home when not being

put to good use by others. (Talk to Mike on 0400721544 if you're interested). Also, you can hire boat and car (or is that car and boat) packages. It's only around an hour and a half drive from Hobart airport. Once you've got your base there is Arthurs, Gunns Lake, Little Lake, Great Lake, Little Pine and the Western Lakes and more all within a 30 minute drive or less. Not to mention Wood's lake just down the road from Wilburville.

As far as flies go, a windy overcast and rainy day generally means wets such as Woolly Buggers, Hamills or Mrs. Simpsons even the odd worm fly or Fuzzy Wuzzy does well.

A sunny day generally means Duns and Mayfly and fur flies in the evening to chase mud eye feeders. Possum fur emergers, shaving brushes, spinner patterns, midge patterns, Rabbit and Ostrich, Churchies all perform well.

Penstock is a great lake for either a boat or a shoreline wander. Generally, parking near the dam wall and walking across it to fish the bank on the right hand (Eastern) side gets results, the fish are often right at your feet so keeping back from the edge and just sneaking a look here and there can be rewarding.

Last year we spent a fair bit of time fishing Wood's lake and caught quite a few fish around or just under 500mm. Pete out-fished me about five to one but didn't we have fun. Most of these fish were caught 6m or less from the bank, some I had to cast to by staying back from the edge casting the fly line on the grass with just the leader in the water and they were in ankle deep water sipping emergers from the surface.



Some lucky person owns a fantastic shack right on the shore of Woods with trout right out in front.

We travel from Pete's shack at a place called Flintstone on Arthurs lake, a couple of kms up the road from Wilburville where Pete has a boat shed bigger than his shack and a screened fish keeper or is that a fish-safe rather than a meat-safe, where he hangs his fish to set overnight before skinning and filleting the next morning.

The season is upon us so it's time to get out there and chase our speckled quarry and if possible head down Tassie way for a wander and a well-earned holiday over summer.



"The Mop" Fly

Jeff Yates

When Rob handed me a dozen microfiber mop tassels that he had robbed from his wife's duster, I thought he was taking the piss. He also had an article written by Mick Hall for Freshwater Fishing, giving the origins, history and recipes of "the Mop" Fly.

I'm always up for a challenge, and ways to improve on other's inventions, and this was no exception. With our club trip to St Clair coming up this weekend, and with the predicted easterly low throwing up some foul weather, what better time to try out a grubby looking pattern for the first time.

My only opportunity to tie a fly came on the Saturday morning before I left. I flashed down to my tying desk before breakfast and knocked up a couple of prototypes; first impressions were that they were simple, and at an optimistic long shot may imitate grubs being washed out of the many gutters and creeks flowing into the lake.

Arriving at St Clair mid-morning, I met up with the crew being tutored by fly fishing supremo, Peter Morse, in the finer art of fly casting. Having paid my respects, I excused myself to go chasing the bass at the top of the lake.

I met up with Trip Master Chris, at the head of the Lake and had a quick chat. Apparently, there were a few fish being landed, so this was encouraging. While chatting, I tossed "the Mop" over the weedbed into the deeper water, and allowed the sinking tip line to draw down the fly to the depths below. A slow grubby, pulsing return got immediate attention, when a 350mm bass hit the fly and was duly landed. What a start! My confidence had an immediate leap in faith in the new fat



wiggly widget. The fly had swollen to double the original size and the palmered grizzle hackle was working a treat looking like a fat grey centipede of sorts.

I gave Chris some clear air, moving around to a nearby rock formation. There I met up with Peter who had already landed several fish. While once again having a chat, a deep retrieved fly got hammered. This fish lugged deep and hard; "this is not a bass" I said to myself as I managed the loose line back to the reel, ready for a determined fight. After a sustained period, I was slowly able to encourage the fish out of the depths to get a look at him. Initially, the light gold looked like a yella, but with Chris now at my side, he called it for an oversized silver, and sure enough it was. We got a number of shots before releasing it back to its deep home, but we made a slight blunder, we forgot to measure it. But where there's a will there's a way. Looking at the photos when I got home I was able to extrapolate an approximate length of 620mm, by measuring where the tail hit my bicep and the overhang at the head end. The condition of the fish put its weight in excess of 3kg, now if this is not a recommendation for "the Mop" then nothing is. The fly caught several more bass during the day, but I had to change to a lighter fly when the fish were starting to feed higher in the water column. Will I use it again? You bet, and I have even made a few minor modifications to further enhance its appeal, like plastic bead eyes. Anyway, for what it's worth, I have attached a step by step tying procedure, and I was using the grey fly on the day (dull day, dull fly).



Materials:

Hook: Black Magic #B8
 Body: Microfibre duster tassel
 Eyes: Black Nylon bead chain
 Head: Natural possum dubbing
 Hackle: Grizzle hackle palmered
 Ribbing: Brass wire
 Thread: Black

Procedure:

Tie on eyes and super glue in place
 Tie in brass wire and hackle at tail



Strip back tassel to expose the inner cotton threads and tie in at the eyes, superglue in place.

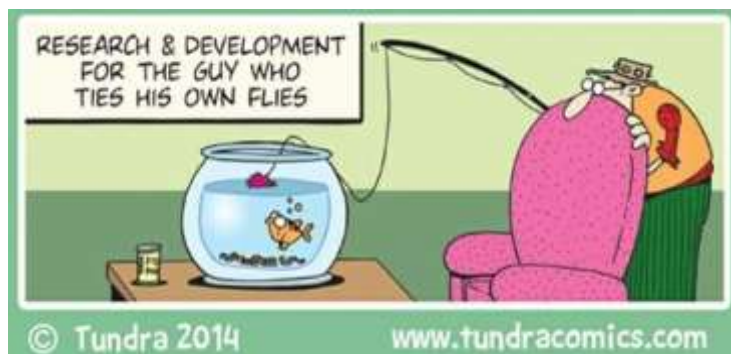


Palmer hackle from the hook bend to the eyes and overlock with the brass wire.



Dub around the eyes with the possum fur dubbing.
 Apply head set to fly.
 Tease out any jammed hackle, now go fishing





Facebook Fly Swap 3.0

By Darren Foster

In 2016 I joined a Facebook group called Kangaroo Carp. This site is all about catching carp on fly across Australia and overseas. Members are from all corners of Australia and around the globe. The page was started by Peter Morse and Jason Stratford for people who target carp on fly.

The expertise is quite amazing, and for those scoffing right now, just remember that it is easy to catch carp on bread flies that have been berried up with bread for the previous week. Try catching a carp on a traditional dry fly in a skinny, shallow back-water creek or target them with a nymph or another style of fly. There is certainly an art to catching carp on fly. Especially when they are not eating, not in the mood, extremely spooky. After all, they are just like every other fish you target on fly, just a lot more maligned than other species.

The site is full of information from gear to flies, to methods and tips. It is one of the best things on this site, plenty of knowledge and how-to. The range of flies people are using to catch the 'ole maligned mud marlin, the 'ole swamp trout, the 'ole golden ghost, inland bonefish, sewer bass.....sorry got a bit malicious there.....what were we talking about? Oh yeah flies used to catch carp are varied and consist of tried and true patterns to flies designed and tied by members. There is no limit to imagination when designing a fly.

Another aspect of the site is the annual fly swap between members. Once either a specific pattern has been selected to tie or be it a free-tie (whatever you want to tie as long as it's used to catch carp), members are then invited to join the swap. I have had

the pleasure of being the *Swapmeister* for the Kangaroo Carp Fly Swaps and have also participated in the first two. Back in April the Kangaroo Carp Fly Swap 3.0 was initiated by Jason, the *Swapmeister* elected (myself) and the invitation was sent out to members with the basic criteria – free-style. There ended up being 12 members joining the swap so KCFS 3.0 Group 1 and KCFS 3.0 Group 2 were then formed.

A few of our club members decided to join in on the swap and so sent a request to join the group, approved by Jason and assigned to their respective groups: Tallis in Group 1; Patrick in Group 2; and Chad (already a member) in Group 1. Other members of the groups were from all over NSW, QLD, and Vic.

Chad had his fly sorted, one of his own concoctions called the *Red Rocket*. What were Tallis and Patrick going to tie? Something challenging, traditional or a new pattern all together. We ended up settling on Patrick tying a *Hammerhead* (size 6) and Tallis tied my spin-off of the *Admiral Akbar* fly: The *It's a Trap* fly (size 6). For those that don't know, Admiral Akbar featured in the Star Wars movie and was famous for saying "*It's a Trap*".

As Swapmeister, I get to see all the wonderful flies tied before the whole of Facebook does. I also get a set myself. The tiers not only get a set for their selves but also a surprise from the Swapmeister. This year I made a small timber stand (see pics) which are sent out to each participating member of the fly swap along with their flies.



Marking out the carp stands ready for cutting/shaping.



All sanded, ready for the pyro step.

The variety of flies tied and the quality of each fly is just outstanding and it is a pleasure to be able to sort the flies as they come in and then return the packages to each tier. Another bonus of being in this group is that after each fly swap a few dedicated flingers of fluff for carp head out with the newly acquired carp flies and give them a thorough testing. They then post their success on the page for all to see.



Group 1 Tiers (from top left clockwise):
 Red Rocket (Chad P. NSW)
 Worm in the Grass (Tim J. NSW)
 Carpy Legs (Lonk K. NSW)
 Hot Legged Shrimp (Jack P. QLD)
 Carp Damsel (Frank J. Vic)
 It's a Trap (Tallis R. NSW)



"It's a Trap"



Group 2 Tiers (from top left clockwise):
 Hammerhead (Patrick T. NSW)
 Black Hackle Wet (Allan H. Vic)
 Audough-bot Decepticorn (Luke S. NSW)
 Bugger Bomb (Brandan W. QLD)
 Carp Breath (Andrew H. Vic)
 Darter Damsel (Andy B. QLD)



"Hammerhead"

Popping Shrimp

By Darren Foster
Tied by Patrick Tobin

Materials

Hook: Stainless Steel O'Shaughnessy Size 6 (or your preferred saltwater hook)

Thread: Clear mono

Eyes: Hair brush bristles (look for the ones that have colored tips)

Feelers: Pearl Crystal Flash

Mouth parts: White Deer Hair (you can use anything you like here, sometimes I use a small clump of Flash-n-Slinky or Deadly Dazzle)

Body: Pink Super Salt Chenille

Back: Thick foam (white or color to suit)

Note: If you cannot source foam thick enough to use (the foam used in this pattern is 5mm) you can glue several small sheets together to get the desired thickness. See the pink shrimp at the end of the article.



Step 1. After placing the hook in your vice, start your thread at the rear of the hook directly above the hook point. Tie in the eyes so they face rearwards over the bend of the hook.



Step 2: Add a dab of super glue over the thread wraps securing the eyes. This will help with the durability of the eyes and stop them from being spun around, out of position.



Step 3: Tie in a small clump of white deer hair with the tips facing the same direction as the eyes and extending past the end of the eyes.

Don't worry too much about stacking the deer hair so the tips are even. The more uneven the better.



Step 4: Tie in the pink salt chenille over the top of the tie-in point of the deer hair. Take your thread back to just behind the eye of the hook.

Wrap the chenille back towards the eye and tie off. Trim the chenille and forward the thread back to the tie-in point of the chenille.



Step 5: Position the foam back with the rostrum roughly even with the tip of the eyes, and tie in securely with several wraps. The tail should just extend past the eye of the hook.

Make even wraps down the body towards the tail. Make several wraps just behind the eye of the hook to secure the tail. Tie off and trim the thread.

Here are a couple of color variations destined for Killick Creek low tide flats (Crescent Head). Color variations are limited only to the imagination.



Tumut Narelle Fox

The morning dawned for our trip to Tumut, so with a quick cuppa and a piece of toast, Foxy and I, Rod D and Lorraine, Wayne and Tallis set off. We had a short stop at Goulburn for breakfast then it was full throttle to Elmgrove Mountain Retreat Tumut.

We arrived just in time for lunch and then it was time for the girls to head to their cabin for their week of relaxation, peaceful walks around the property and some patchwork, leaving the boys in peace to set themselves up and get ready for a week of fishing. Excitement was running high.

Rod E arrived on Saturday with Ray, Fiona, Mark and Glenn arriving Sunday. Just in time for a campfire beef casserole. The weather was perfect for fishing, the only wet day being Wednesday and they still fished anyway.



Rod with the beautiful Goobarrangra backdrop

Fishing was hard with not many caught. They fished the Goobarrangandra, with Foxy catching two - one about 125mm and the second 500mm, both browns. Fiona caught a brown around 530mm and Ray also caught a brown measuring around 500mm. Glenn caught a 150mm rainbow and Wayne a brown, around 300mm. Rod E got hooked up but didn't land it. A number of fish were seen but not many caught all up. Mark's usual technique of approaching

a river with all the subtlety of a Panzer division resulted in a blank for the week. And Tallis, well with the help of our expert in fly casting, Rod Dillon, he was able to improve his casting ability to enable him to present a fly correctly. Well done to Tallis and Rod.



Fiona with a fine brown

They also fished the Tumut River with no success - the river was running hard, the Murrumbidgee and the streams below Mt Selwyn. With no fish caught there.

Rod D hurt his back before he got started so he had to be satisfied with tying flies for the group as they lost them, taking lots of photos and resting his back.



Slumming by the campfire

We had some great campfires with some lovely meals prepared and cooked by all those who went. Happy hour was a nightly event with some really great comradery. I think it is safe to say that a good time was had by all.

Brett and Cherie from BWC Flies and HVFFC with a couple of beautiful fish



Fishy Pics



*Peter with one of his 24 bass for
the club day at St Clair*



*Chad with St Clair bass
caught in the twilight hours*



Scape Pics



*Fading light highlighting a
bass fight late afternoon
on St Clair*

*HVFFC members wish to “thank you”
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