

SINGLETON FLY FISHING CLUB INC. 2002

PROMOTING THE ART OF FLY FISHING IN THE HUNTER VALLEY NSW



YOUR 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Lawrence Blackburn

Vice-President: Darren Foster

Secretary: Tony Ward

Treasurer: Cherie Blackburn

General Committee: Brent Blackwell
Peter Sewell
Jeff Yates

Email: singletonflyfishingclub@googlegroups.com



Christmas -2014



Well it's that time of year again. The cicadas are in full song, the bass are going off (at least in my part of the world) and no doubt many club members are hoping that their indiscretions over the past 12 months have been overlooked by the man in the red suit.

I'm not hearing a lot to get excited about regarding trout. The snowies seem to be quiet still and there is not much water in the Blue Mountains.

I'm still getting good reports about luderick on fly. This facet of fly fishing is growing rapidly and with good reason.

What a year it has been. The carp bash was a huge success and all that pink on the adjoining rock is still affecting my sight! Luckily gentlemen don't get angry; we just get a little terse but if I hear Cyndi Lauper again watch out!

Congratulations to the new committee and thanks so much to those who have volunteered this year.

Read on because there's lots of good stuff to follow.

Glenn

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

Beresfield Bowling Club
Anderson Drive
Bersefield
At 6.30pm



Singleton Fly Fishing Club 2014 Presidents Report 14-11-14

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to start by thanking you all for turning up tonight.

Another year has passed and the club has again had a great year. I would like to thank the committee and all members who have contributed so much and offered their help behind the scenes for the 2014 club year. There are too many people to single out for individual accolades. All I can say is that I thank you all.

This year Warwick has changed jobs and is unable to continue as secretary of our club.

Warwick has been secretary for a number of years and has fulfilled his role professionally and has never missed a beat. These will be huge shoes to fill and we wish him well and hope that he stays involved in the club. I should also mention that the success of the annual Carp Classic has been greatly enhanced due to Warwick's diligence in obtaining large sponsorship donations and for this we thank him for his efforts.

We are a relatively small club but I have to say we are the biggest fly fishing club in the Newcastle area with membership spanning from the Port Macquarie area throughout Newcastle, Muswellbrook to Sydney and now reaching to Tasmania. I would like to thank everyone for travelling and attending our monthly meetings and I encourage all members to try and make it to a few meetings throughout the year as decisions are made at these meetings which affect all members.

This year's Carp Classic event has been recognized as one of, if not the best the club has run.

We have had a lot of positive feedback from members of both invited clubs and many of our own members have commented on how relaxed and enjoyable it was. That comes down to many hands getting involved from the early stages where we started organizing in March this year with a dialogue with the power station. From there, committee meetings and club meetings completed the organizational process, with members volunteering or being volunteered to help out with tasks, both small and large. Well done to all who were involved.

This year we purchased club shirts that identify us and give the club a more sporting and professional appearance. We hope to expand on the merchandise available in the near future.

No doubt Sydney will come to the Carp Classic next year with some form of unity in their shirt choice. We have already passed on the details of where we purchased the club shirts to their president.

This year again the monthly club outings were a huge success:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Clarencetown: | Brad Kershaw |
| 2. Barrington Tops: | Justin Smith, spit roast professionals |
| 3. Stockton: | Jeff Yates |
| 4. Goulburn: | Glenn Olney |
| 5. Coxes River: | Rod Fox, one of the best attended weekends (ladies) and my birthday |
| 6. Lake St Clair: | Peter Sewell |
| 7. Christmas in July: | The Committee |
| 8. Pacific Palms Casting: | Warwick Sommer |
| 9. Swansea: | Darren Foster |
| 10. Carp Classic : | The Committee |
| 11. Mudgee: | Rod Fox |

These outings would not be possible without club members stepping up and organizing these events and once again I thank you all for your efforts. This year we commenced providing a catering allowance for club outings which has proved very successful and is likely to be improved in the near future.

I need to thank Cherie for supporting me in this role. I can tell you there are many club discussions held at home over a glass of red and many ideas come forth, some brought to the next meeting others buried in the next glass of red. I would also like to thank Cherie for her efforts this year in managing the club finances. Thank you Cherie, cheers.

That covers most of the highlights of the year, I look forward to the following year, catching a variety of fish, having weekends away from the house (with Cherie), camping, travelling and enjoying the company of like-minded folk.

Thank you all.

Cheers.

Lawrence

Presidents Ramblings December

On behalf of Cherie and myself, I would like to wish everyone and their families a merry Christmas and a happy new year. This year we have fished here, there and everywhere with many members catching fish. Some for the first time, others showing great skill in trying conditions and at the same time passing on those skills to everyone in the club.

The fly tying presentations at club meetings and fly tying nights have been very successful in teaching others how to tie a particular pattern that is proven in the water. Next year these events will continue with the first fly tying session held on the 14th February at Jim's house at Thornton. This will not only be a tying afternoon, but also a demonstration of how the fly is used in the water with the use of Jim's pool, closing the afternoon with a BBQ dinner.

The 2014 calendar is finished and planning is well underway for the 2015 calendar year, there are still a few months available for outings so if you have a location in mind come along to a meeting and make it known. Saltwater, fresh water, any water really, anywhere we can walk, paddle or motor around to chase those elusive fish from the deep. Those listed below in green are suggestions only.

Singleton Fly Fishing Club 2015 Calendar					
Month	Date	Region	Location	Tripmaster	Contact number
January	23rd - 26th	Clarencetown	Caravan Park	Brad Kershaw	0428 683 186
February	4th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
February	14th	Thornton	Jim's House, Fly tying afternoon	Jim Manley	
March	4th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
March	6th - 8th	Bulahdelah	Smiths Lake Caravan Park	Tony Ward	0408 408 189
April	1st	Beresfield	Beresfield B. C., Fly Fishing Presentation	Clinton Isaac	0415 990 270
April		Nabiac	Bunyah Patrick's Uncle	Darren/Patrick	
May	6th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
May		Lithgow?	Lake Lyell?		
June	3rd	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
June		St Clair?	Camping Ground?		
July	1st	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
July	4th	Beresfield	Christmas in July, Beresfield Bowling Club	Lawrence Blackburn	0432 989 797
August	5th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
August					
September	2nd	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
September					
October	2nd - 4th	Eucumbene	Trout season Opens - Providence Portal		
October	7th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
October	16th - 18th	Muswellbrook	Liddell Power Station - Carp Classic Event		
November	4th	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	
November		Gloucester	Barrington River	Brent Blackwell	
November	13th	Beresfield	AGM, Beresfield Bowling Club	Lawrence Blackburn	0432 989 797
December	2nd	Beresfield	Club Meeting	All	

As I write this we have four members having great success down at Eucumbene with some very nice browns and rainbows being caught. No doubt they will return and tell all about their exploits at the first meeting on the 4th February at Beresfield. The only problem with telling us at the meeting is only those attending will hear what happened.

I would like to see more stories; large or small coming in to the newsletter so all members far and wide can read about how the trip went, see the photos and pick up some tips on what fly works in different waters at different times of the year. The stories then become part of the learning experience for all members, which is what the club is all about, teaching the art of fly fishing to all.

That's all for now, see you on the water and/or at the next club meeting, until then have fun chasing those piscatorial predators of the deep.

Cheers

Lawrence.



I always thought a **Winston** was the correct gear to drive your fishing forward!

2014 Windermere Trip by Jeff Yates

Hosted by Rod Fox as trip master, the trip was successful in all aspects except for numbers of fish caught. But who cares, the company was friendly and fun, the scenery was spectacular and the weather was kind to us for a change.

Windermere Dam was built in 1984 on the lower reaches of the Cudgegong River some 19kms from the historic town of Rylstone. It is used mainly as an irrigation dam, and is well stocked with Yellow Belly, Cod and Silver Perch. Also catfish can be spotted protecting their 2m diameter nests along the foreshores. These nests proved to be popular with Yellow Belly



as well, seemingly predated on the eggs, and both fish caught were over these nests. Other Yellow Belly were seen but were not interested in the various fly presentations offered to them. Maybe glo bugs next time?

Fishing access was by boat and kayak. Several snakes were spotted during the trip with one black snake attacking Fred's flyline on a retrieve. Now Fred is Irish, and after some disbelief, we went looking for the said snake, thinking that

maybe St Patrick or the leprechauns had spirited it away, but true enough we saw his Red Belly Black. Our apologies Fred for not believing you.....

The next Dam upstream on the Cudgegong is the little oasis of Rystone Weir. It is the main



water supplies for both Rylstone and Kandos. Only a shallow dam, of a couple of kms in length, but it has great weed beds and a number of rockwalls to fish. It is stocked with Cod and Yellow Belly, which are beautifully coloured. Access the water with kayaks for best results. Peter scored this beauty during a prefish on a leach pattern.



Dunn's Swamp was built as a water supply for the newly completed cement works in the 1920's.

Situated on the headwaters of the Cudgegong River it is absolutely beautiful. It is within the Wollemi National Park and is around 30mins from Rylstone. It has a pretty camping area with drop toilets and no showers, but the cost to stay and the beautiful surroundings more than compensates for any discomfort. It has been stocked with Yellow Belly and Cod, but unfortunately none this trip. Yaks are the best form of water access, and besides the fly rod, take a camera as you will regret it when you see what it has to offer.

Look What I Caught!



No need for Brent to hold the fish forward to make it look bigger. It's a cracker of a Lake Macquarie salmon!

There Are No Fish Down There

The Nepean River is my home water. It is only 30 minutes from home so a quick fish is often on the cards.

I understand it is part of Sydney and often people believe there is nothing worth casting a fly to down here but the reality is far from this opinion.



So take a ride with me as I disclose my thoughts on how to catch bass in the amazing Nepean River.

The time the bass arrive in the Penrith area varies from year to year and I believe the main factor is water temperature. In 2013 we were getting bass from late September but this year they were a month later. The water temperature increased from 16 degrees in 22 a month later and we went from barren water to averaging 17 fish per trip.

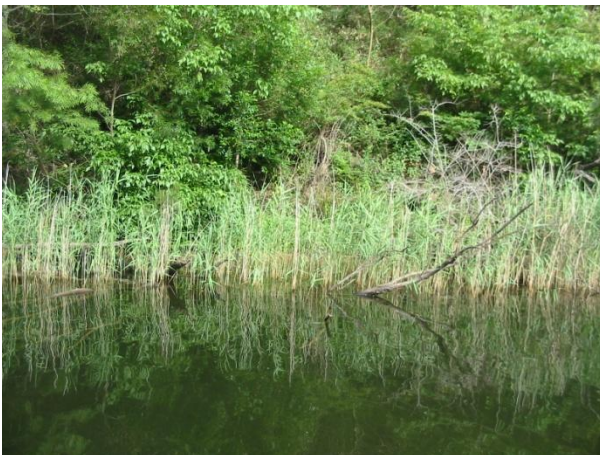
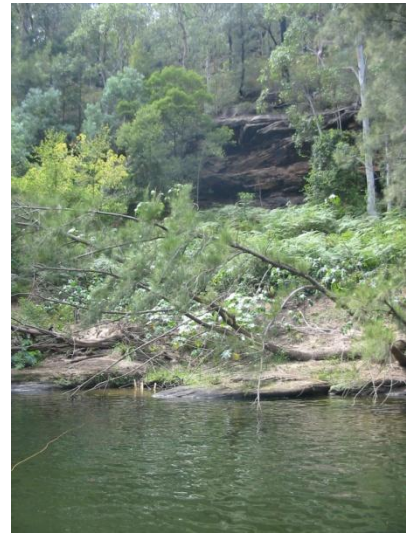
Another thing we noticed is that the cicadas didn't arrive until November this year so maybe this had something to do with it.

The bite stays on until late March or when the first heavy rains come.

Where possible I try to fish on weekdays when I have the river largely to myself. On the weekends no water skiing is allowed before 9.30am so there is time for a quick fish. It is also possible to run up to the 8 knot zone but sadly the rules are often broken and it is quite common to see wake boats belting through the 8 knot zone with skiers behind well before 9.30am.

I use a Drift Native Series rod and an 8 weight bass line although anything in the 6-8 weight range will work. As most of my flies are fluffy the bass line helps punch them to where the bass live. The great thing with my rod is that it is 7 foot 11". This helps to end to me get the casts under trees and into the snags where the bass live.

The following pictures give an idea of where the bass lurk.



One key thing I must emphasize is that your casting must be accurate. Within 30cm or the shore, weed bed or snag. Occasionally the fish come out but not often.

If you tie your own flies think gurglers or Chernobyl ants. Muddler minnows also work well.

There are two things that will improve your hit rate.

Firstly, don't be scared to tie a long tail. I use marabou. If you say you will get short takes you are correct but you will get many more hits which will more than compensate for this.

The second theory and the one I believe is more important is to tie the body on a little forward. This plus the longer marabou tail will make the back of the fly sit lower in the water and it may seem hard to believe but after doing this our strike/connection rate doubled.

If you don't tie your own flies Brett Clarke of BWC Flies ties some brilliant bass flies which are available at Sydney Fly Outfitters and Guiding. When I have a new fly of my own to try I always test its success against one of Brett's and if it keeps up I know it's a good fly.

Some of Brett's flies are shown below. Note the body position on the bottom row. Look up his page on Facebook- BWC Flies.



The majority of bass you catch are small. Think 20cm-25cm but mixed in with these are some clunkers. Each year we land several fish over 40cm to the fork.



The other thing to watch out for is tagged fish. Not common but one or two each year seem to turn up.

In times gone by fisheries would let you know the history of your fish but sadly this seems to have stopped this year.

So welcome to my home water.

Yes it's close to suburbia but get out early and it's amazing what you will see.

Only a week or two back Rod Esdaile and myself spotted a lyrebird. Wedgetail eagles and osprey are in the area not to mention my favorite the azure kingfisher.

Goannas are also there along with fly chasing water monitors.

And did I mention bass? An average trip for me is 3-4 hours and the last 3 trips have yielded 51 bass.

Not bad for a suburban river with supposedly no fish in it!

Cheers

Glenn

Fishy Fotos (Liddell Style)

No need to comment on the following photos other than to say we had more fun than was probably necessary!





I understand girls just wanna have fun but Cindy Lauper drives me LOOPY!!!!

Sponsors 2015



<http://www.flynguide.com.au>

John has moved the shop to 17 Brodie Street Rydalmere.
Directly opposite Rydalmere railway station.

If you need help with presents give John or I a call. (Prices disguised and hints given to family and friends if required). PS Just joking (maybe)

Email sales@flynguide.com.au 0427904518 (John) 0417402540
(Glenn)

Newsletter Wrap Up

Well that's it for me for 2015. Thanks' to everyone who helped with this year's newsletters and spent time with me on the water or wherever we gathered.

I love Christmas and am proud to say even at my age I still believe in Santa Claus, particularly if presents are involved.

Hopefully all of us have behaved moderately well throughout 2014 so that Santa will be kind.

At this time of year regardless of your faith or beliefs it is worth remembering the minutes of The Sea of Galilee Fly Fishing Club and I quote (sort of).

Treat others as you would like to be treated. Although Christmas is a happy time for most of us it can also be the loneliest time of year for some so keep an eye on friends and family to make sure they are OK.

Play nicely together and be kind to each other.

The best is yet to come.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Cheers

Glenn



