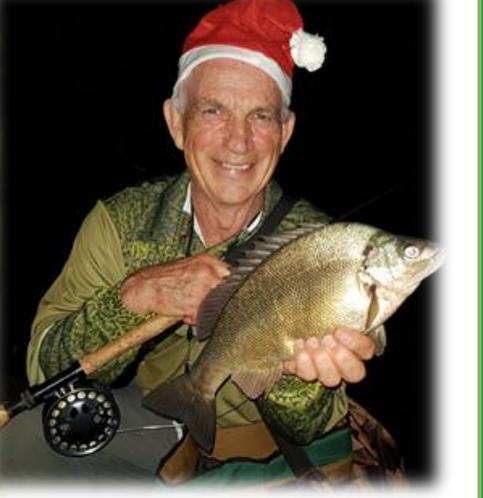


# The Flyer



Official Newsletter Of The



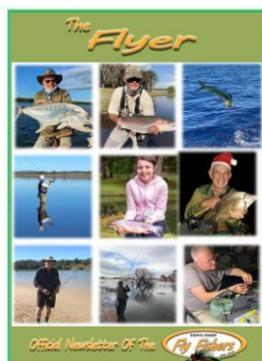
# *The Flyer*

## The Official Newsletter of the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

### DECEMBER 2021

### Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
December Meeting	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 6
January 2022 Meeting	Page 6
Raffles	Page 7
Thanks to Supporters	Page 7
December Outing	Page 7
Committee Report	Page 8
Firsts	Page 8
Club Calendar	Page 9
Gumma Report	Page 10
Indicators	Page 12
Casting Around ... Reality Checks	Page 17
2021 Contents	Page 21
Covid-19 Safety	Page 24
Our Supporters	Page 25
Membership	Page 26
Membership Form	Page 27



**Front Cover:** A lot of things happened at our Club over the year and these photos reflect just some of the highlights. Join in our activities for 2022 and you could be on the cover of The Flyer.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



## December 2021

We've had a couple of great outings in the last month. First, the Tuesday Casters had a fun day at Valla Beach where a successful morning fly fishing was topped off with an enjoyable barbecue lunch organized by Greg. Then Pip managed to find a few dry days to conduct the Gathering @ Gumma which was well attended by members from north to south. Thanks Pip for all your work and those who helped.

As for the rest of the year, things are starting to slow down as we approach Christmas. Some members are off the Keepit next week where the water level should be just about up to the cabin door. The casting group finishes up this month and the only meeting we have is our end of year get together.

I hope to see you at the Christmas end of year do at Mylestom on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>. There's nothing formal about the night just a chance to catch up and chat. There's a free sausage sizzle for members, family and

friends. If you want to bring a rod and cast you can. Anyone who wants some help with their casting can come down to the Mylestom oval in the afternoon or there will be instructors available after the sausage sizzle. With holidays approaching you should brush up on your casting before you head off.

You may have heard I had an operation on my lip recently. I'm not sure which is more painful, my lip, or not being able to eat steak and tell yarns! I'm pleased to report things are on the mend and I will have a few stories for you when we meet at the Christmas get together.

All the best for Christmas and tight lines over the holidays.

*Doug*

# From the Editor

As we come to the end of the year it is good to look back on what the club has achieved. Despite Covid lock downs and less than ideal weather patterns, we have managed to fit in a lot of events and activities. The club only started in 2016 and has come a long way in such a short time. Looking back through newsletters it is easy to see the progress that has been made. The cover photo this month paints a great picture of what we have been doing and the involvement of our members. If you want to check out what else has been happening or catch up on articles you did not have time to read, you will find the content pages for the whole year of newsletters starting on page 21.

This is the last newsletter for the year. There will be no meeting in December except for our Christmas Barbecue. We will resume in January with another evening get-together. Don't forget if you do some fly fishing over the holidays take some photos and write a report for the next newsletter. The newsletter is only as interesting as you make it.

Our activities this year have been disrupted by Covid and the weather. Despite this we have had good attendances at events and good results on the fishing front. Our membership has grown to 70. Thanks to a hard working Committee, we finished the year with our finances in good shape and a comprehensive program of outings and activities planned for 2022.



As our club grows, so do the achievements of our members. The standard of casting is getting better every year. With better casting skills comes more successful fishing trips. Many members were able to add a new species to their capture list this year - for some even their first fish on fly. Sadly, I am still trying for my first Barramundi. I guess I need to work on my casting and go north more often.

Fly tying should be part of any fly club's activities. We tried a few times to get some fly tying going as a regular club activity this year but for one reason or another it didn't happen. We have some excellent fly tyers in the club and some new members wanting to learn. We will be trying again next year to introduce some regular fly tying activities into our program.

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to the club this year and I look forward to seeing you on the water or at a club event in 2022.

*Editor*

# Club Executive 2021-22



President  
Doug Urquhart  
0458696138



Vice President  
Greg Artlett  
0427689400



Secretary / Public Officer  
Newsletter Editor  
Allan Ekert 0427457725



Treasurer  
David Small  
0423112902



Assistant Secretary  
Ray Phipps  
0412525338



Club Captain  
David Moppett  
0411723221



Committee  
Kevin Cosgrove  
0438554843



Committee  
Michael Ferris  
0428636858



Committee  
Murray Robinson  
0425277026



Committee  
Tom Trefz  
0423676624



Committee  
Brian (Pip) Bevan  
0409469562



Committee  
Walter Krainik  
0439187380

## December Meeting

There won't be a December meeting  
... but

we will be having a Christmas get together on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Mylestom Oval. This will take the form of a free sausage sizzle followed by some casting practice and a chance to socialize. The sausage sizzle will commence at 5.30pm and the evening will conclude when light fades at 8.00pm.

There will be a raffle on the night with some fantastic prizes. [Mo tackle](#) has donated vouchers and fishing gear worth over a hundred dollars to be given away. All you have to do is buy a ticket to be in the draw. The club is very appreciative of the support and all money raised will go to funding club activities and running costs.



Some of the goodies donated by MO Tackle for the raffle on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Be there to win.

Make an effort to attend this last activity of the year. Family and friends are invited to join in. Bring a chair, some insect repellent and a fly rod if you want to cast. Free water and cordial will be provided if you let us know you are coming.

**If you are coming to the Christmas BBQ you MUST let us know so we can order enough food - if you don't let us know you will need to bring your own. You can email David Small ([dnksmall@gmail.com](mailto:dnksmall@gmail.com)) or text or ring on 0423112902.**

## Tuesday Casting Group

The Tuesday Casting Group will finish for the year on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. Casting at Mylestom 10am  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. Casting at Mylestom **2pm** followed by Christmas get together and sausage sizzle at 5.30pm.

## January 2022 Meeting

The next meeting of the club will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022. This won't be a regular meeting but a social outing with BBQ and casting. The venue will be the park at Mylestom. Time will be 5.00pm to 8.30pm.

Family and friends are invited to come along and participate in what is planned to be a social occasion with no club business on the agenda. Sausage sandwiches will be provided. Tea/Coffee and water will be available.

As well as sitting around talking (bring a chair) there will be some casting games and fun activities. And for those who need casting instruction there will be people available to help.

You will get an email early in the new year to remind you of this special gathering and of our first regular meeting for the year which will be the third Monday in February.

## Raffles

Raffles are our main source of income. We are grateful for donations by members and our supporters in providing raffle prizes. I'd like to be able to list everyone who has donated items for the raffle but with my memory I fear I might leave someone out. If you have donated flies, fishing gear, or other items your generosity is much appreciated.



Vice President Greg presented Glenn with a South Pacific Carry-Lite Waist pack which he won as a major prize in our raffle. Garry from [A1FlyFishing](http://A1FlyFishing.com.au) provided the prize at a discounted price to the club. Garry has also been a great supporter throughout the year donating caps and other items to the raffle.



## Supporters

During the year we have received continued support from [A1FlyFishing](http://A1FlyFishing.com.au) and [Mo tackle](http://MoTackle.com.au) aka [Fishing Tackle Australia](http://FishingTackleAustralia.com.au). We are grateful for this support and encourage members to look locally when they are in the market for fly fishing gear.

When we try to have some fly tying sessions, or when I'm tying flies for members for our fishing trips, I rely on the supply of materials and hooks donated to the club by Barry Ryan who used to distribute Talon products in Australia. You can't buy from Barry anymore but you can join me in acknowledging what he has done for the club.

Take a look at the other supporters on our Supporters Page (page 25) who have helped us in one way or another. They have gone out of their way to back our fledgling club so keep them in mind when looking for goods and services.

## December Outing

The only outing for December will be the trip to Lake Keepit which will take place from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December. All places are now taken so you will need to put your name down for next year just as soon as the dates are advertised. If you really want to go this year let us know just in case someone pulls out at the last minute.

This trip is always well supported as it is a great opportunity to catch a large fish on fly involving all the stalking, sight fishing, hooking and playing skills you need to learn as a fly fisher. It's also a great social event where everyone enjoys the camaraderie, good food and a few laughs.

## Committee

The Committee held its final meeting for the year on Monday. The club conducts most of its business through committee and the work of committee members in keeping things running smoothly is much appreciated.

A summary of decisions made at the meeting is listed below. A copy of the full minutes and the financial statement is available if you would like a copy - contact the Secretary.

An Income and Expenditure statement for the year was presented by the Treasurer showing a Balance of \$4918.79 with accounts to be paid for food for Dunmore and Keepit.

Public risk insurance of \$780 was approved for payment.

Approval was granted to use Club funds to provide the free sausage sizzle and drinks for the Christmas get together on 14<sup>th</sup> December and first meeting of the year in January.

A draft calendar for 2022 was discussed and approved with dates to be added as the year unfolds. See copy on page 9.

The issue of how to charge for food for extended club trips was discussed. It was decided that a set amount is charged for food based on previous trips and the cost is advertised beforehand. If there is a shortfall this is to be covered from consolidated revenue. If there are excess funds they are retained in consolidated revenue.

It was decided reimbursements for members for less than \$30 can be paid from Tuesday Casting Money or Raffles (Petty Cash) with a receipt. Amounts over \$30 need to go through the books and be reimbursed by the Treasurer.

It was agreed that people coming to the Christmas BBQ MUST let us know so we can order enough food. If names are not down they will have to bring their own food.

## Firsts

It's always a memorable moment when you catch your first fish on fly or the first species of fish on fly. Both Nigel and David S are relatively new to fly fishing and have been regular attendees at our Tuesday casting sessions. All the instruction from Club Captain David and guest instructors John and Peter must have paid off because just recently they had some memorable moments with the fly rod.



Nigel with his first trout on fly, an Ebor rainbow he caught all by himself with some guided help from fellow club member Ray. Why wouldn't you smile!



David S was fishing in a very secret spot on a local river when he caught his first trevally on fly. It wasn't one of the bigger ones but even fish of this size pull hard.

## Club Calendar 2022

Here is the draft club calendar for 2022. It is provided to give you an overview of what might happen and an opportunity to plan ahead. Dates and changes will be added throughout the year. Check the monthly newsletter or website for the latest changes.

Month	Outings	Activities
JANUARY	No outing this month <b>Meeting/Casting</b> at Mylestom Oval at 5.30pm on Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> .	<b>Club Meeting</b> at Mylestom Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>
FEBRUARY	<b>Bass Outing</b> at Taylors Arm (Doug) Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> <b>Committee Meeting</b>
MARCH	<b>Casting Day</b> Saturday 19th <b>Tuesday Casting Group Resumes</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> March <b>Blue Water Outing/ Homewaters</b> Saturday 26th	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> Mylestom Major Raffle Drawn
APRIL	<b>Keepit Carp Trip</b> Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10th <b>Home Waters</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>No Club Meeting</b> Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> due to Easter Holidays.
MAY	<b>Fly Fishing Workshop Ebor</b> Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> TBC <b>Homewaters</b> Saturday 14th	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> <b>Committee Meeting</b>
JUNE	<b>Homewaters</b> Saturday 11th <b>Lake St Clair</b> TBC	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Major Raffle Drawn
JULY	<b>Casting Day</b> <b>Flats Fishing Workshop</b> TBC (Garry) <b>Dunmore Waters</b> Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30th	<b>Annual General Meeting</b> Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>
AUGUST	<b>Swansea Salmon Classic</b> TBC <b>Mullet Mash</b> Saturday 20th	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> <b>Committee Meeting</b>
SEPTEMBER	<b>Gathering @ Gumma</b> (Pip) Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11th <b>Homewaters</b> Saturday 24th	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Major Raffle Drawn
OCTOBER	<b>Homewaters</b> Saturday 8th <b>Bass Bash Jackadgery</b> Friday 21st to Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> (Michael)	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>
NOVEMBER	<b>Homewaters</b> Saturday 19th	<b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> <b>Committee Meeting</b>
DECEMBER	<b>Keepit Carp Caper</b> Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11th <b>Christmas BBQ</b> Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Major Raffle Drawn	<b>No Club Meeting</b>

# Gumma Report

*by the Editor*

After being postponed due to Covid lockdowns and almost being washed out, the Gathering @ Gumma went ahead as planned. A total of twelve members attended at various times over the four days. Despite the strong winds, a lot of fishing (but not catching) was done.



The southern contingent of our Club, led by Pip (aka Brian), did a fantastic job setting up camp and providing all the gear for members to enjoy their stay. Pip begged, borrowed ... (but didn't steal), gazebos, generators, freezers and cooking gear for the event. With help from Doug, Greg, Mike, Tom, Murray and Jim H, they set the camp up and packed it away and made sure everyone had everything they needed.



The camp site was shady and sheltered from the wind ... did I mention the wind?

The weather leading up to the trip was less than ideal and the strong winds continued after the rain abated. The Saturday was by far the best day and some people like me only turned up for the day visit. Others were more organized and brought their motorhomes.



Success on the fishing front came to those who persisted the longest. Jim H, who lives in Forster, called in on his way home from Dunmore and caught a couple of nice flathead - the biggest 60cm. Unfortunately, we don't have photos but Greg was there to measure.



Not a lot of other fish were caught although plenty of time was spent looking. The wind made it difficult to venture far beyond the camp and the recent rain put a stop to any bass trips. Gumma has a lot of potential when the weather allows.

The fish that were caught and photographed were not that big but were a lot of fun on light gear.



David L and I accounted for a few bream some on clousers and some on bread flies. We tried for the flathead but without any luck. Mike and Jim hooked a couple of flathead but didn't get them to the boat.



Gumma is a great place to fish by boat and Kayak. The water is sheltered from all but the worst of wind (we had the worst!) You can boat down to the mouth of the Nambucca or head up the creek looking for bass. There are land based options, too, with plenty of sand flats to wade.



Ray waded the sand flats in search of a flathead but with no reward. This was the spot where Jim caught his flathead earlier in the week. Tom and his grandson also fished this area but the flathead had moved on.



With the wind blowing and fish uncooperative there was plenty of time for catching up and telling yarns.



Gumma will be on the program again and those who went this year are keen to make it bigger and better. Hopefully, we will have better luck with the weather and everyone will get a chance to see the potential of this area.

# Indicators

*by the Editor*

I wanted to tell you about some new material I have found for making the indicators that I like to use. Finding the right kind of material at the right price has become difficult but I think I have found the answer.

My intention was to just tell you about the material. Then I started to think about indicators in general, why finding the right material has been difficult, why I use this type of indicator and how to tie them.

So let's start at the beginning. What is an indicator? An Indicator is a form of floating device attached to a fly line that suspends a sinking fly below it.

There are some who look on indicators in the same light as floating baits under floats. They refer to them as "bobbers" and don't consider using one "real" fly fishing. I am not a purist and never go fly fishing without an indicator somewhere in my fly box.

I think the reason I like using indicators so much is I grew up fishing for Luderick with a float. After all, indicators are just miniature floats in one form or another. As a kid, seeing the float go under and coming up tight on a hard fighting Luderick was fishing at its best.

I still indicator fish for Luderick (with a fly rod) but now I mainly use an indicator when trout fishing. I don't use indicators all the time as they definitely have their limitations. Indicators have pros and cons but for the beginner there are more advantages than disadvantages.

Indicators come in many different forms. If you want to see all the options I suggest you search sites such as this one from Hatch Magazine:

<https://www.hatchmag.com/articles/know-your-indicator/7714320>

The one I want to talk about is a yarn indicator and I like to make it in a particular way. I'm not suggesting it is the best but it is the one I use the most.

It all started when local fly fishing guru Peter Elks gave me some beautifully tied indicators for my first trip to New Zealand. Peter had introduced me to fly fishing around Ebor and when we couldn't catch them on dry flies we would put on an indicator and pull fish out of places we had already fished.

Peter's indicators became famous and found their way into FlyLife Magazine (Number 25 Spring 2001). If you really want to know about yarn indicators and how to tie them this article is a must read.



Peter ties his indicators with a material called Tiemco Aero Dry Wing. It is hollow and has great buoyancy. Its disadvantage is the cost and the difficulty in finding the original material in Australia. You can still buy Tiemco Aero Dry Wing at most fly shops but is the fine version which doesn't provide the bulk that is needed for holding up large flies such as weed flies.



In my search for a cheaper and more buoyant material, I started using polypropylene. Some brands were better than others and I found Hareline Polypro Yarn just about right.



Then they started making it only in fine and I was left searching again.

Using materials such Tiemco Aero Dry and Polypro meant that indicators were costing over \$3 each to make. Being a skinflint, I wasn't prepared to pay that much for materials that weren't as fit for purpose as they used to be.

Recently I came across another source of polypropylene from a craft shop. It's called Bonnie Macrame Craft Cord. This brand was the only one I could find that was 100% polypropylene. It comes in a variety of colours and three thicknesses. It doesn't matter which thickness you use as you have to unwrap the strands to use it. For about \$25 you can buy a roll of 90 metres - enough for thousands of indicators.

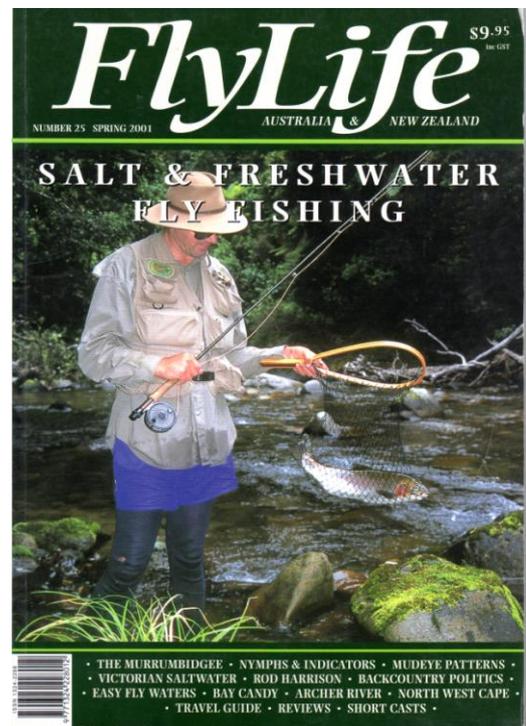


Now that I have a source of cheap polypropylene, in the colours I like using, I can tie enough indicators for our trout fishing workshops at Ebor without breaking the bank.



If anyone would like to tie some indicators I am happy to give you some of this polypropylene to try - just ask.

Before I go into how I tie indicators using this material I want to point out that although I have had lessons from Peter I am a slow learner and my finished products are not in the same league as his. I suggest you get hold of a copy of the FlyLife magazine article and read it carefully. I have a copy I am willing to share if you wear gloves and read it while I stand guard!



## Tying a Yarn Indicator

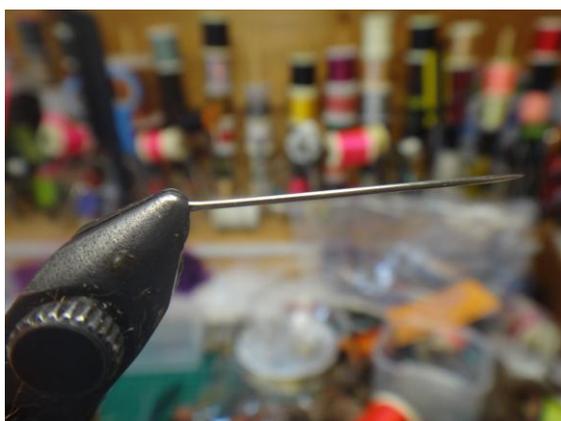
Bonnie Macrame Craft Cord comes in 4ply, 6ply and 8ply. I used 8ply to tie this indicator.



Cut a length about 30mm long. Unwrap the weaved layers and select 4 to 6 depending on how dense you want to make your indicator.



Place a needle in the jaws of the vice. Use as thin a needle as you can but make sure it is strong enough to stand the pressure you will apply when you start binding.



Begin binding the strands of cord together using the needle as the backbone. Make sure the cord sits on top of the needle and doesn't spread out. Use a bobbin but don't use fly tying thread as it will not be strong enough. I use Berkley Fireline braid in 4lb test but any ultra thin braid would do.



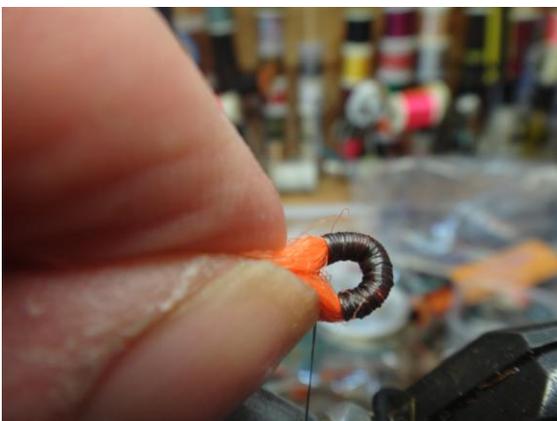
Make sure each turn is tight and snug up against the next one with no gaps. Keep binding until the wrapped section is about 10mm long.



Throw a half hitch around the braid at the end of the binding but do not cut off. You can remove the yarn from the needle as the rest of the tie is done by hand.



Once the yarn is off the needle and in your hand bend the binding to form a loop.



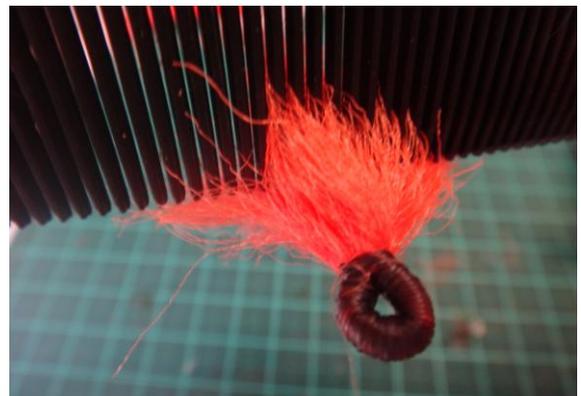
Once you have made the loop you need to secure it very tightly with several half hitch knots. These can be done with the indicator between your fingers and the bobbin of braid in your other hand.



Once the braid is secured cut it off. Don't bother with head cement as it won't work but you could use super glue if you like. I find if I secure tightly with half hitches they never come undone. You could whip finish.



Now it's time to give the indicator a cut and comb the hair. Macrame Cord never looks as neat and tidy as Tiemco Aero Dry Wing or Polypro but it still does the job.



You can make your indicators in different sizes and colours to suit you fishing situation or whether you are colour blind

or not.



When I am finished I place them in a plastic bag and spray them with Scotchgard and leave to dry. You could use a specific liquid floatant for dry flies but it is expensive.

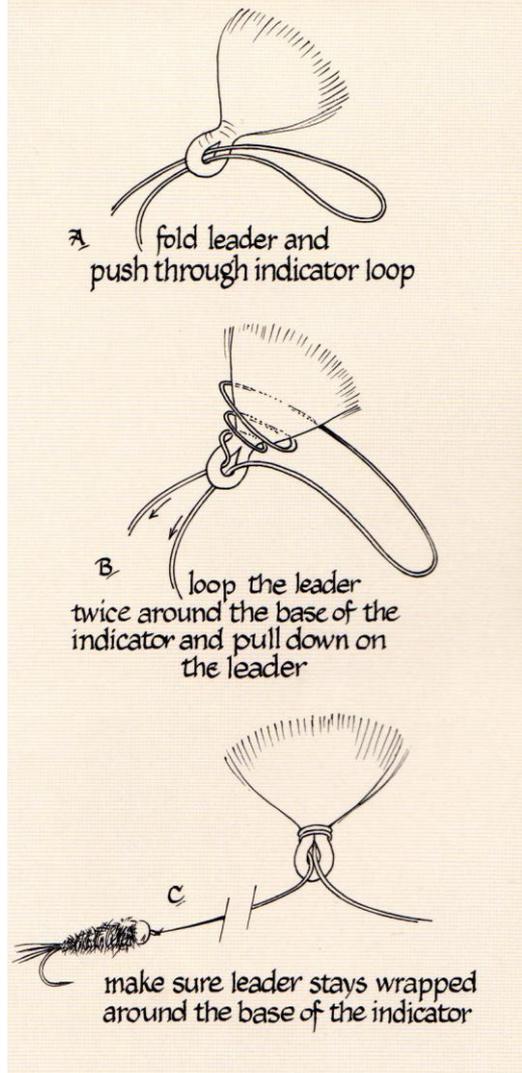


When I tie one on my line I put a drop of regular floatant on my fingers and rub it well into the fibres. Best not to use too much as the floatant can leave a slick on the surface which can be noticed by the fish. Trout notice your indicator and will often come up and eat it instead of the nymph you have tied under.



These instructions from Peter's FlyLife article will show you how to attach the indicator to your leader. Talking to Peter recently he said he now prefers to loop the leader three times around the base to stop it from slipping.

#### HOW TO ATTACH INDICATOR TO LEADER



I am not claiming these yarn indicators are the best but I like them and use them almost exclusively. If you are a fan of The New Zealand Indicator Tool, Thingamabobbers, Airlocks, Pinch on Indicators, Pinch on Putty, Football Floats or any other type, by all means use them. As with everything in fly fishing there are pros and cons and it all depends



### Reality Checks

I've been fly fishing now for more years than I care to remember and it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that my casting is as good as it needs to be. A recent fishing trip to Lake Keepit reminded me sometimes my beliefs do not always match the reality of the situation. I was forced to confront the unpleasant truth that my casting skills were not as good as I thought.

I've fly fished at Lake Keepit on many occasions and I don't think I have ever had a day when I couldn't catch a carp. There is no shortage of fish and I can spot them and land the fly in the right place for a take. This last trip proved the exception. The fish were still there but so too were the weeds and the clouds. Recent rains had pushed water levels into the trees inundating weeds and rubbish. The thick cloud cover and the murky water made spotting fish almost impossible. I had to rely on subtle movements in the weeds to know that a fish was there. Once alerted to the presence of a fish there was no hope of seeing the shape. It was a matter of guessing the direction the fish was taking and trying to land the fly in the next available space among the weeds. My inability to place the fly quickly and accurately was a reality check that left me fishless and in need of more practice.

In our fly fishing journey we all need reality checks to push us to improve. I remember my first trip to New Zealand and having to confront the dreaded nor'wester. Having to give up shots to feeding trout because I couldn't handle the wind was motivation for me to spend more time learning to cast better. That was the beginning of my journey to become a certified casting instructor. Without the reality check of watching a friend cast into the wind and catch those fish I may still have been under the mistaken belief that my casting was as good as it needs to be.

The Fly Fishers International Casting Certificate was another reality check for me. I thought I could cast well and only needed to handle the wind better and tidy up a few other issues to pass. Time spent with my mentor preparing for the test left me in no doubt that my journey still had a long way to go. As I practiced and studied I was forced to consider the unpleasant truth that my casting wasn't good enough and I could no longer ignore it.

Reality checks are important for all of us at every stage of our fly fishing journey. Beginners who cast wide open loops will swear they are not breaking their wrists. They imagine they are stopping the rod vertically. The fact that the line hits the water behind them and their loops are wide isn't enough to convince them. Casting instructors are always telling students to look behind but still they don't always see. One of the best ways to make the point is with a video camera. It is very difficult to argue against the video. Once the student can see what they are really doing and not what they think they are doing, progress can be made.



The video camera is one of the greatest reality checks ever invented. I always thought my loops were pretty good until I looked at a video of myself casting. The rod legs were not always parallel, the tracking was sometimes out and there was too much bounce in the line. They say the camera doesn't lie so I had to concede that my perception did not match the reality. Just like the beginner, when confronted with the evidence, I had to make some changes before progress could be made.

Reality checks come in all shapes and sizes and at any time in a fly fisher's life. How you deal with the wakeup call determines your ultimate success as a fly fisher. My years in Tasmania had allowed me to become a competent trout fisher. My casting had progressed to the stage where I qualified as a Certified Casting Instructor. My fishing skills had developed so I could catch trout in rivers, streams and lakes (some of the time!). I was nowhere near the best but I was successful and content with my achievements. Then came a move back to the mainland. With trout water harder to access, I was forced to turn to the salt ... or fish less.

It would have been easy at my stage of life to fish less and travel for my trout fix back to Tasmania or over to New Zealand. Faced with the reality of having to fish less I decided it was time to develop new skills and knowledge and become a saltwater fly fisher. Fortunately, my experience as a troutie provided a good launching point. I'm not a saltie yet but a whole new world of learning and opportunity has opened up for me. Without a reality check this might never have happened.

I know of many fly fishers who avoid reality checks by never fishing outside their comfort zones and beyond their limits. I have a good friend in Tassie who would always asks about predicted wind conditions before he would go fishing. If he had his way we would never go fishing when the wind was blowing. Eventually, I managed to convince him to work on his wind casting skills. After that, we never missed an opportunity to fish whatever the wind was doing. The only reason you need to consider the wind is to determine where the fish might be feeding and how to make a safe cast.

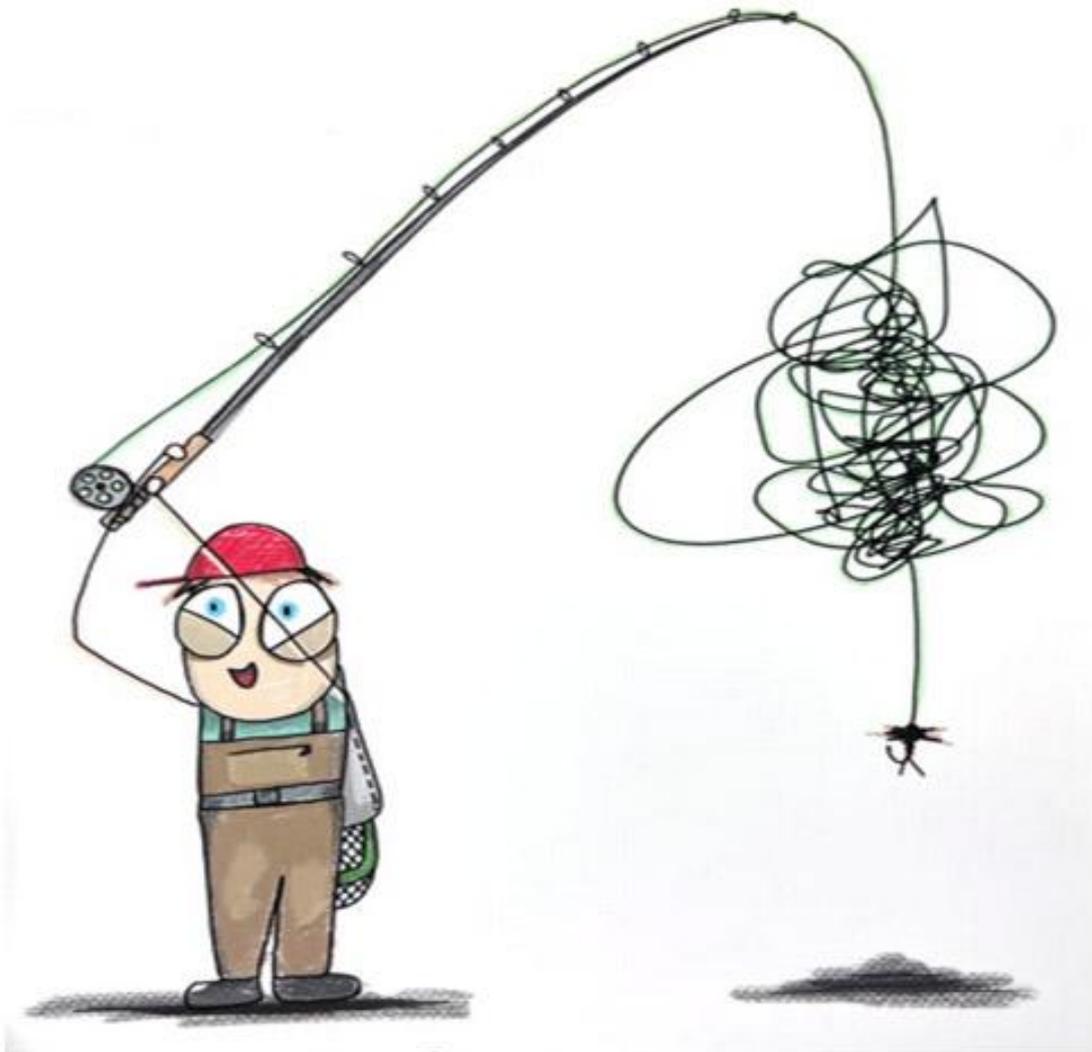
When I am out on a boat with beginners or trouties chasing fast moving fish such as salmon or trevally, the need to make long casts quickly often comes as a shock to them. On a trout stream (or the casting field), 40 feet is a long cast. On the bow of a boat you need to make casts of 60 feet and beyond to have any chance. The reality of this situation can often be the turning point in someone's development as a fly fisher. Either learn to make longer casts or stick to trout. A reality check such as this is something we all need to go through if we want to make progress.

Before all the saltwater fly fishers think they have arrived and have nothing more to learn, let me tell you of some of my experiences going the other way. I have seen a number of competent salties turn up on a trip to Lake Keepit and be brought down to earth by the humble carp. You don't need to be able to cast 40 feet to reach most carp. In fact, often you will only need your leader and a few feet of fly line. And you must be accurate. For someone used to belting our saltwater flies as far as they can, having to present a fly short and on target without lots of false casts and double hauling is a challenge. Reality checks are good for saltwater fly fishers too.



It's not just casting skills that can be challenged when a wakeup call comes along. I have seen many good fly casters go fishless on a trout stream or lake because they can't see the fish or don't know what they are feeding on. The western lakes of Tasmania are renowned for sight fishing for trout. If you want to throw woolly buggers around you might be lucky and hook a fish but your blind casting will spook many more. The name of the game is spotting fish and putting the right fly in front of them. You can't do this without developing a whole new skill set and acquiring a lot more experience and knowledge. First time visitors to Tassie often leave without catching a fish because they are not prepared for the difficulties of the fishery. The reality of the situation can either make or break them.

Sometimes you need to be cruel to be kind. Putting someone in a situation where reality bites is often needed for them to progress as fly fishers. We all need to be told how good our casting and fishing skills are to boost our confidence. On the other hand we all need to be exposed to the reality of where we are at. Balancing confidence boosting with motivation to improve can often be difficult especially among friends and fellow club members. The next time I present someone with a reality check I hope they see it as an attempt to help them improve. I've had my share of reality checks along the way and there are more to come. Treat each wakeup call as a challenge to get better not as a dent in your confidence. Realty checks are good.



# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
FEBRUARY 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
Editorial	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
February 2021 Meeting	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 6
February Outing	Page 6
Casting	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 7-8
Facebook	Page 9-10
Beginner's Corner	Page 10
Keepit Carp Caper Report	Page 11-13
Casting Around ... Shooting Line	Page 14-17
Covid-19 Safety	Page 18
Our Supporters	Page 19
Membership	Page 20
Wall Planner 2021	Page 21-22
Membership Form	Page 23

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
APRIL 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
April 2021 Meeting	Page 6
April Outing	Page 6
Tuesday Casting	Page 6
Raffle	Page 7
Committee	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 8
Bushfire Recovery Workshop report	Page 9
Jindabyne Report ... Jeff Yates	Page 16
Landing a Fish on a Fly Rod ... Jason Stratford	Page 20
Fly Tying the Bloomfield Grub ... Paul Fedeles	Page 27
Casting Around ... Fly Rod Action	Page 28
Covid-19 Safety	Page 31
Our Supporters	Page 32
Membership	Page 33
Membership Form	Page 34

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
MARCH 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
March 2021 Meeting	Page 6
March Outing	Page 6
Casting Day	Page 6
Bushfire Recovery Fly Fishing Workshop	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 7
Raffle	Page 7
Casting	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 7
Committee Decisions	Page 9
Learn to Fly Fish for Trout	Page 10
Tasmania Report	Page 11
Mugs Guide to St Clair	Page 19
Fly Tying ... The Brown Nymph	Page 22
Flies By Fedeles	Page 26
OZ Fish	Page 26
Casting Around ... Shooting Heads	Page 27
Covid-19 Safety	Page 32
Our Supporters	Page 33
Membership	Page 34
Wall Planner 2021	Page 35
Membership Form	Page 37

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
MAY 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
May Meeting	Page 6
May Outing	Page 6
Tuesday Casting	Page 6
Raffle	Page 6
Committee	Page 7
New Executive	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 8
Ebor Trout Workshop	Page 9
Bronte Fly Fishing School	Page 10
President Doug's Photos	Page 11
Keepit Carp Caper Report	Page 12
Cordulid ... by Jeff Yates	Page 18
Casting Around ... Fly Lines Again	Page 21
Covid-19 Safety	Page 25
Our Supporters	Page 26
Membership	Page 27
Membership Form	Page 28

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

JUNE 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
Membership Renewal	Page 6
June Meeting	Page 7
June Outing	Page 7
Tuesday Casting	Page 7
Raffle	Page 7
Lake St Clair	Page 8
Committee	Page 10
New Executive	Page 10
Club Calendar	Page 11
Upcoming Outings	Page 12
Ebor Trout Workshop Report	Page 13
Hello Coffs Harbour ... Anthony Heiser	Page 23
Another Salmon Quest ... Jeff Yates	Page 27
Casting Around ... Casts That Catch Fish	Page 29
Hinchinbrook Challenge	Page 33
Covid-19 Safety	Page 34
Our Supporters	Page 35
Membership	Page 36
Membership Form	Page 37

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

AUGUST 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
August Meeting	Page 6
August Outings	Page 6
AGM Report	Page 6
Committee Meeting	Page 7
Tuesday Casting	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 8
Swansea Salmon Classic	Page 9
Mullet Mash	Page 10
Gathering @ Gumma	Page 11
Fly Fishing Therapy ... Jeff Yates	Page 12
Fly Tying	Page 18
Casting Around ... Less is More	Page 21
Classifieds	Page 25
Covid-19 Safety	Page 27
Our Supporters	Page 28
Membership	Page 29
Membership Form	Page 30

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

JULY 2021

## Contents

From the Editor	Page 3
Club Executive	Page 4
July Meeting	Page 5
July Outing	Page 5
Tuesday Casting	Page 5
AGM	Page 5
Upcoming Events	Page 6
Club Calendar	Page 7
Lake St Clair Report... Tom Trefz	Page 8
Lake St Clair Report ... Ray Phipps	Page 11
Flats Fly Fishing Workshop Poster	Page 14
Swansea Salmon Fishing Poster	Page 15
Mullet Mash Poster	Page 16
Gathering @ Gumma Poster	Page 17
Salmon at Last ... Jeff Yates	Page 18
Swansea Salmon Classic	Page 21
Casting Around ... Doing it in the Dark	Page 23
Classifieds	Page 26
BWC Flies	Page 26
The Pitch	Page 26
Fly Tying	Page 27
Covid-19 Safety	Page 28
Our Supporters	Page 29
Membership	Page 30
Membership Form	Page 31

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

SEPTEMBER 2021

## Contents

From the Editor	Page 3
Club Executive	Page 4
September Meeting	Page 5
September Outings	Page 5
Tuesday Casting	Page 5
Committee Meeting	Page 6
Casting Competition	Page 6
Covid Boating Rules	Page 7
Bass Season	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 8
Dunmore Report	Page 9
Fly Tying	Page 12
Fly Fishing England ... Jeff Yates	Page 16
Casting Around ... Choosing a Fly Reel	Page 20
Covid-19 Safety	Page 24
Our Supporters	Page 25
Membership	Page 26
Membership Form	Page 27

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
OCTOBER 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
October Meeting	Page 6
October Outings	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 7
Tuesday Fly Tying Group	Page 7
Upcoming Events	Page 8
Upcoming Events (cont)	Page 9
Club Calendar	Page 10
Mullet Mash	Page 11
Gathering @ Gumma	Page 12
Trout Season	Page 13
Fly Tying	Page 16
Fly Tying Competition	Page 19
Fishing Reports	Page 20
Casting Around ... Competition Fly Casting	Page 21
Eastern Freshwater Cod	Page 25
RexFly Casting System	Page 25
Covid-19 Safety	Page 26
Our Supporters	Page 27
Membership	Page 28
Membership Form	Page 29

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
NOVEMBER 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
November Meeting	Page 6
November Outing	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 6
Fly Fishing Super Clinic	Page 7
Lake Keepit Carp Caper	Page 7
Club Calendar	Page 9
Dunmore Report	Page 10
Gathering @ Gumma	Page 12
Mullet Mash Report	Page 13
Carp on Fly ... Jason Stratford	Page 15
Fact or Folklore? ... Anthony Heiser	Page 18
Proposed changes to fishing rules	Page 30
Fly Tying ... Woolly Worm	Page 31
Casting Around ... Music and Fly Casting	Page 33
Covid-19 Safety	Page 36
Our Supporters	Page 37
Membership	Page 38
Membership Form	Page 39

# The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
DECEMBER 2021

## Contents

President's Report	Page 3
From the Editor	Page 4
Club Executive	Page 5
December Meeting	Page 6
Tuesday Casting Group	Page 6
January 2022 Meeting	Page 6
Raffles	Page 7
Thanks to Supporters	Page 7
December Outing	Page 7
Committee Report	Page 8
Firsts	Page 8
Club Calendar	Page 9
Gumma Report	Page 10
Indicators	Page 12
Casting Around ... Reality Checks	Page 17
2021 Contents	Page 21
Covid-19 Safety	Page 24
Our Supporters	Page 25
Membership	Page 26
Membership Form	Page 27

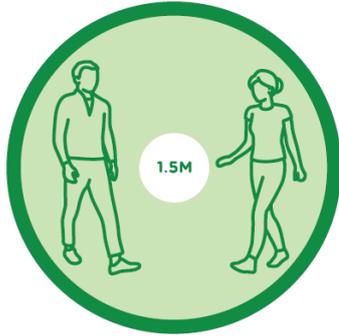
The  
Flyer

Make 2022 the year your  
write a report, send in some  
photos and contribute to the  
newsletter.

Official Newsletter Of The 

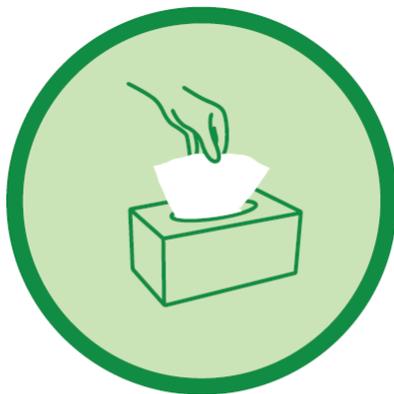
# Covid-19 Safety Policy

To ensure the safety and well being of all our members and the community you are asked to abide by the following guidelines whenever we meet:



Practise physical distancing. Where possible, stay 1.5m apart.

- If members have any flu like symptoms they are requested not to attend club activities. (We won't ask you to complete a declaration form, as many groups are doing, but will trust you to make the right decision if you are in doubt).



Stay at home and self-isolate if you are unwell.

- The sharing of equipment should be avoided where possible and frequent use of hand sanitizer is encouraged. Sanitizer will be available at all club activities.

- During this time many people are refraining from shaking hands and hugging. If you are a gregarious person you might want to check the body language of the person you are approaching to gauge their feelings on this matter. Not shaking hands or touching during this time shouldn't be seen as being unfriendly.



Wash your hands regularly with soap and water.

- You must register and sign in with your phone number or use a QR Code for all club activities. If you have the COVIDSafe app active that would be another safeguard.
- When food and drink is part of a club activity you should consider bringing your own crockery and cutlery. For the immediate future, the club will be using disposables.
- Be aware of government imposed restrictions and follow the rules.
- Wear a mask when regulations require.

**BE COVIDSAFE**

# Our Supporters

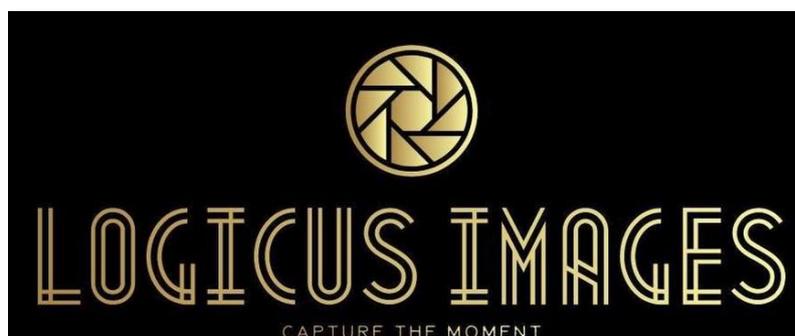
These people have all helped our club in one way or another. When you are looking for products and services make sure you consider them first



## Flies by Fedeles



<http://flytyerman.blogspot.com>



## Membership Fees

Membership Fees are as follows:

Adult membership \$30

Family membership \$40

Concession membership \$20

Junior membership free

Distant membership \$10

The membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Family membership is available for a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.

Concession membership is available to pension card holders (including disability support and aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs cardholders

Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour.

Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

Fees can be paid:

1. **In cash** or by **cheque** at the next meeting or fly tying night. (cheques made payable to Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

2. **By cheque** posted to:

The Secretary  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club  
11 Butterfly Close  
Boambee East  
NSW 2452



3. **Direct deposit:** BCU Credit Union  
BSB 533 000

Account Number: 02051766

Name: Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc

Reference: Your surname

If you are making an electronic deposit please send an email to [ccffc@tpg.com.au](mailto:ccffc@tpg.com.au) to indicate you have paid as we do not have online access to our account. When depositing, make sure you include your surname in the Reference section. e.g.

**Ekert Membership.**

### Club Contact Address

Our official email address is [ccffc@tpg.com.au](mailto:ccffc@tpg.com.au).

Our mailing address is:

The Secretary

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

11 Butterfly Close

Boambee East

NSW 2452

### Electronic Contacts

We have a Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club website which can be found at:

<http://coffscoastflyfishing.weebly.com/>.

If you find problems with the website such as broken links please email the Secretary so they can be rectified.

Our Facebook Page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/coffscoastflyfishing/>

We have a **Facebook Group**. If you are on FB all you need to do is search for Coffs Coast Fly Fishers and ask to join the Group. Currently there are 348 members in this group.



## Notes

### **Club Membership Definitions:**

Concession membership is available to; Pension Cardholders (including Disability support and Aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs Cardholders.

A family is a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.

Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour. Distant Members are entitled to all the benefits of club membership and are covered by public risk insurance.

### **Fees:**

Our preferred method of payment is Direct Deposit. When making a **Direct Deposit** please ensure you include in the Reference: your **Surname** so the payment can be identified by the Club Treasurer and a receipt issued.

Fees can be paid in **Cash** or by **Cheque** at a meeting or club outing.  
Cheques to be made payable to **Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.**

### **Completed Membership Forms:**

Can be scanned and emailed to the Secretary at [ccffc@tpg.com.au](mailto:ccffc@tpg.com.au).  
Can be hand-written and handed to the Secretary at a meeting or event.  
Can be posted to the Secretary at the above address.

All information supplied will be held in Club records and will only be available to financial Club members, if approved by the applicant as indicated on their Membership Form.