

February 2018

FlyLines



Welcome to FlyLines , the first in 2018.

This **Tuesday** (February 6th) we have **James Laverty** from **FlyOdyssey Australia** showing us some of the most popular fly fishing destinations around the world including Anaa Atoll and a research project in French polynesia. Check out the attached flyer for more details!

Fly Tying Competition for February is the ubiquitous **Woolly Bugger**. Get busy! Tie a fly for Tuesdays competition!

The **Australian Flyfishing Festival** will be held Saturday **23rd February** at the **The Rowers Club** on the Nepean River near Penrith. The Festival brings together major fly fishing brands and their products as well as industry professionals, guides and participants. Free workshops and exhibitions. Definitely heaps of rods, reels and lines to cast. Entry is free but donations appreciated to help cover cost of staging the event. With Juan from AFFS holding the reigns I expect plenty of learning and laughter. Festival starts 9am Saturday scheduled through to 10pm in the evening. I will post m

This year will kick off with some great **guest speakers** thanks to Phil O'Brian and the speakers kind enough to visit the Club. Over the next few months we will be joined by David Screen telling tales about his latest trip to Argentina and the famed 'Jurassic Lake' then in April, Champion angler Antti Vappula from Vision Flyfishing will be one not to miss!



The **Christmas Party 2017** was held in December last year at Collegians. Naturally the food was delicious , the conversation tasty with plenty of prizes, presentations and awards throughout the evening. Great to see lots of partners of members join us to finish up the year.

At the end of the evening I realised I had taken only 1 picture. Here Chris presents Bob Hurt with a Certificate for the largest Bass which was a stonking 52 cm. Congratulations Bob , thats an impressive catch!

Gary Hickson has been working hard on the **Illawarra Fly Fisher's website** which is up and running. Like the newsletter editor, Im sure Gary would appreciate any suggestions and/or content for our online presence. Tune in, log on and check it out!

Casting practice for 2018 will resume on the first Sunday following the monthly meeting. gather at Towradgi Park, adjacent to Towradgi Bowling Club for kick off at 10 am. Can't go fishing , than at least get out and practice for the next trip!

Cheers, Mitch

Illawarra Fly Fishers Merchandise

“Support the club. Buy some merchandise. Wear a shirt. Put a sticker on your boat. Stick it on your car. Or esky. Buy an Illawarra Fly Fishers embroidered patch. Stick on your vest!”



- IFF Shirts - Vented back to keep cool , long sleeves for protection from the elements. Gusseted pockets for all those gadgets.
- IFF Polo Shirts - Size XL only
- IFF Stickers - Buy one for the Car, Boat , Esky. Support and represent the club! .
- IFF hat pin - for your hat or favourite Tweed Jacket. Add to your hat pin collection. Great for clearing the eye of hooks.
- IFF Patches - Embroidered. Green and Gold ovals patches for your fishing shirt or vest. Great help to identify other club members in the field.



We received an email update from some long standing members of the Club. In their own words,

“us ‘Old Fogies’ appear to have traded in our fly rods for walking sticks!”

Shoalhaven River Bass

December 2017

In December '17 Kim, Barry, Adrian and myself fished for three days down the Shoalhaven targeting Aussie Bass. Great fishing and amazing scenery!



While the weather was scorching hot so was the fishing! The whole place was just ringing with Cicadas. We landed plenty of fish but surprisingly the biggest we're just under 40 cm. A few bust offs were probably some bigger fish.



Kim negotiating one of the few sketchy rapids. River height was ideal. The water was super clear and only a few times we had to port ourselves through or over obstacles.





Lots of Herring in the upper reaches of the river. Some afternoons the whole surface rippled with them.





New England Murray Cod

Over Summer I spent a week exploring relatively small clear rivers of Northern NSW and the New England region chasing Murray Cod. I was joined by my buddy Redbeard and Miles , a guide Trout guide and fishing writer from Montana.



Spectacular gorges of New England. Note Miles in the top left corner of the pic.



Fished some awesome bouldery rivers surrounded by massive gorges. The number of fish in some of the rivers was impressive.

There were lots of people and fishing pressure so the windows of opportunity were generally the first and last hours of the day.



While most fish were around 50cm and the biggest up to 70 cm, it was the number of fish in the rivers that was most impressive and enjoyable! And just beautifully marked fish.



Chasing Murray Cod in country NSW is a deeply Australian experience. Iconic landscapes , scorching summer heat , deadly snakes , cold beer and the largest freshwater fish on the continent! Get amongst it!

February Fly of the Month

Woolly Bugger

The Woolly Bugger is so effective, it should be banned from some watersheds. I suspect its effectiveness is due to its resemblance to so many edible creatures in the water--nymphs, leeches, salamanders, or even small sculpins. Its tail undulating behind a fiber, bubble-filled body is just too much for most fish to resist. It just looks like a meal!


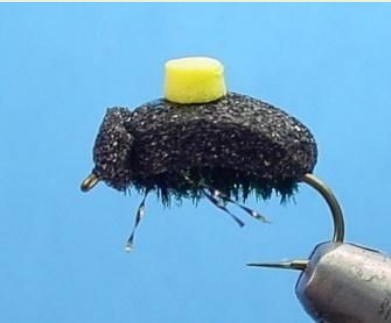






— Bill Hunter, The Professionals' Favorite Flies






The Woolly Bugger seems to have been created by pennsylvania fly tyer Russell Blessing around 1970 to imitate the Dobsonfly larvae, the Hellgramite. But the true origin of the fly seems uncertain at best. It is generally considered a variation on the traditional English Palmered fly the Woolly Worm which dates back to the 17th Century and the writing of Isaac Walton.

As a Trout fly in Australia it has achieved Cult status fished in lakes or swung in the faster rivers. Great imitation for Trout food including yabbies , Gudgeon and other larger prey. The Woolly buggers is such a versatile pattern and in various sizes and colours also catch Bass , Carp and Yellowbelly among others.

<http://flyfishforfun.com/top-5-woolly-bugger-fly-fishing-patterns-tie/>

February	March	April	May
			
Woolly Bugger http://flyfishforfun.com/to-p-5-woolly-bugger-fly-fishi-ng-patterns-tie/	Foam Beetle Recipe Tie your favourite foam beetle on a trout hook.	Klinkhamer Special Recipe Hook : Klinkhåmer hooks size 8-20 Thread : Grey or tan Body : Fly Rite Poly Dubbing or Super Fine dry fly dubbing Wing : White poly-yarn Thorax : Peacock herl Hackle : Blue dun, dark dun, light dun, chestnut	McFly Foam Egg Recipe Hook: TMC 2488H #1016. Thread: GSP 50, colour to match the egg Egg and Yolk: McFly Foam. Special tools: Razor Blades
June	July	August	September
			
Rubber Leg Stimulator Recipe Hook: TMC 512 #6-14. Thread: Fluoro Fire Orange Butt: Tying Thread Tail: Yearling Elk Rib: Fine Copper Wire Abdomen: Yellow Antron Dubbing Body Hackle: Brown Wing: Yearling Elk Thorax Hackle: Grizzly Legs: Orange Round Rubber Thorax: Orange Antron Dubbing	Bead Head Flash Back Pheasant Tail Recipe Hook: TMC 5262 #12-18 Thread: 8/0 UNI Rusty Brown Bead: Brass, Copper or Tungsten Weight: Lead wire Tail: Pheasant Tail Fibres Rib: Fine Copper wire Abdomen: Pheasant Tail Fibres Wing case: Pheasant Tail Fibres topped with Firefly Flash Thorax: Peacock herl Legs: Pheasant tail from wing case	Clouser Minnow Recipe Hook: TMC 811S #2/0-6 Thread: 3/0 or 6/0 white Eyes: Painted Lead Eyes Belly: White Bucktail Flash: Krystal Flash Back: Chartreuse Bucktail Nose Tag: Chartreuse tying thread	Bead Head Prince Nymph Recipe Hook: TMC 5262 #4-18 Thread: Black Bead: Brass or tungsten Tails: Brown goose biots, tied opposed. Rib: Small gold oval tinsel Body: Peacock herl Hackle: Mottled brown hen saddle Horns: White goose biots Weight: Lead wire

October	November	December	
			
Parachute Hopper Recipe Hook: TMC 5212 #6-14 Thread: 6/0 Tan Wing Post: White Calf Body or Tail Hair Hackle: Grizzly Rooster Saddle Rib: Brown Uni-Stretch Floss Abdomen: Antron Dubbing, colour to Wing: Turkey Wing or Tail Legs: Knotted Pheasant Tail Fibre Thorax: Antron Dubbing	March Brown Recipe Hook: Any general wet or dry fly hook. Thread: Any dark thread. Brown, black, dark olive Tail : brown partridge or golden pheasant Rib : fine copper wire Body: Dark hare. Wing: Hen pheasant or Woodcock. Legs/hackle : Brown partridge	Gusto with weed guard Recipe Hook: Gamakatsu SL12S Eyes: Dumbbell eyes to suit Tail: Marabou plumes Body: Saltwater chenille Collar: palmer chenille. Hackle: Webby Schlappen Hackle Weed Guard: Hard mono or wire	

The Council of Freshwater Anglers

First Estuary Perch stocking at Brogo Dam



On 4 December DPI carried out its inaugural stocking of Estuary Perch fingerlings into Brogo Dam near Bega. NSW Department of Primary Industries Recreational Fisheries Manager, Craig Watson, said that 10,000 Estuary Perch fingerlings were released.

“The fish were bred at Narooma Aquaculture and are being released with the assistance of local fishers,” Mr Watson said. “There is no better place than Brogo Dam to release these Estuary Perch, as the area is known for its great fishing,” Mr Watson said. “This is a Recreational Fishing Trust project initiative and is just one of the ways anglers are benefiting from their licensing fees.

“This fish release mirrors a recent stocking of Australian Bass undertaken by the Far South Coast Bass Stocking Association last month, as part of the community based Dollar for Dollar native fish stocking program.

“This is great news for anglers who can look forward to catching these fish in a couple of years.”

During the 2016/17 season, more than 5 million native fish and trout were stocked in freshwater areas across NSW under the NSW Government’s stocking program and the community based Dollar for Dollar native fish stocking program.

The spin-off benefits to regional economies, in terms of tourism and employment cannot be overstated,” Mr Watson said. Fishing is a very popular pastime in NSW with about 850,000 anglers throwing in a line each year.

Our generous Sponsors

The Illawarra Fly Fishers' Club is supported by a number of sponsors. Please remember these businesses when making purchasing decisions, as they need your support as our Club needs theirs.

- **Complete Angler Sydney** kindly donate a \$50 voucher for our monthly club raffle. Members receive 10% discount on all purchases.
- **Collegians Football Club** allow us use of its rooms for both Club meetings and our monthly fly tying nights, as well as donating vouchers for meals at the Club



Remember a great selection of magazines , quality books and inspirational DVD's are available to borrow from the club Library.



Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon

The club has several EPIRB aka PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) available for Free to use by members but a \$50 deposit is required. Contact:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
| • Nigel Pennington | Thirroul | 0418 427 658 |
| • Julian Watson | Corrimal East | 0418 631 225 |
| • Barry Gentle | Kiama | 4237 7452 |
| • Leo Harding | Bellambi | |

Illawarra Fly Fishers largest Fish Register 2018

Fish must be caught on fly, in season, in NSW public waters and equal or exceed the minimum length requirements.
Bass to be measured to tail fork.

As of 24th November 2017

SPECIES	FLY FISHER	Length in CM or Weight Kg	FLY AND HOOK SIZE	TIPPET IN POUNDS	LOCATION
<i>Australian Salmon</i>	<i>Ray Ellis</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>Rays epoxy shrimp</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>Tuross Heads</i>
<i>Bass</i>	<i>Ray Ellis</i>	<i>41.5</i>	<i>Vampire</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Lake St Clair</i>
<i>Brown Trout</i>	<i>Gary Batey</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>Brown Parachute emerger</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>River X in NSW</i>
<i>Carp</i>	<i>Dianne Ellis</i>	<i>73.5</i>	<i>Vampire</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Chaffey Dam</i>
<i>Flathead</i>	<i>Dianne Ellis</i>	<i>50.2</i>	<i>Vampire</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Tuross Heads</i>
<i>Mullet</i>	<i>Mike Parkinson</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>Surf candy</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Brunswick Heads</i>
<i>Whiting</i>	<i>Neil Nelson</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Rays Epoxy Shrimp</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Maianbar</i>
<i>Yellowbelly</i>	<i>Dianne Ellis</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>Vampire</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Chaffey Dam</i>

2017-2018 CLUB COMMITTEE AND POSITIONS

ILLAWARRA FLY FISHERS' CLUB P. O. Box 408, Unanderra, NSW 2526

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Meet and Greet Officer:	Mike Parkinson	4229 2087	
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Guest Speaker organiser			
Chris Harding Raffle Coordinator:	Malcolm Lowe		
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