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Welcome.

► **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 5th March, 2024.

7:30pm

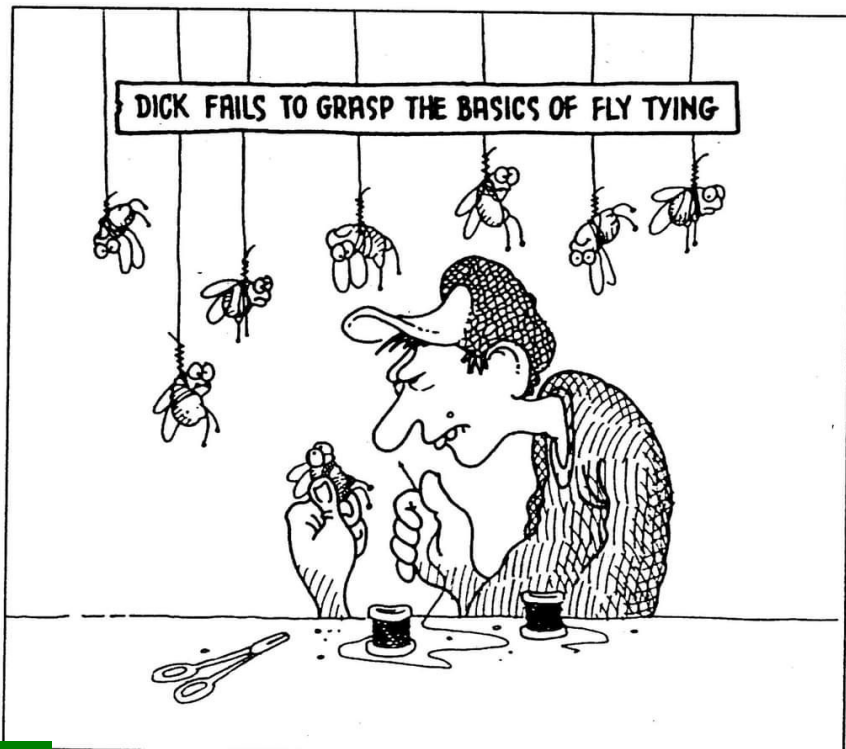
Collegians, North Wollongong.

► **Casting Practice:**

Sunday 10th March, 2024.

10:00am

Towradgi Reserve, Towradgi



Fishing Reports.

We had 24 members at the first meeting of 2024 with plenty of tales of fishing exploits over the holiday period:

Nigel Pennington and **Matt Wright** visited the Snowy Mountains area. Nigel, in particular, was very impressed with the fishing on Nungar Creek. Another stream visited was the Gungahlin for some small fish. The highlight of the trip was on Lake Eucumbene at Braemar Bay, fishing into the night where, from the early evening, the fish were active on mudeyes. Fishing into the dark with a floating fly you'd hear a splash and swirl from the direction of your fly, strike, and sometimes you'd hook up, sometimes not. Some big fish were landed, with Matt dropping a monster estimated at about 8lb.

David Treinis and **Neil Nelson** fished on Botany Bay for a couple of flathead. They were hoping for some action on pelagics but none were seen, and there was a noticeable absence of birds. On an earlier trip to USA David went fishing in Utah with a friend and came away a "convert" to tight-line nymphing. He reported that while he fished conventional style his partner used tight-line and outfished him 10 to 1. David splashed out and bought himself a Tenkara rod.

Peter Fragiaco and **Neil Nelson** spent a few hours at Shoalhaven Heads chasing flathead. Peter landed one from three hookups, and Neil two.

Gary Batey and **Gary Hickson** visited Tasmania and had a great time on several of the impoundments. The trip began with snow, wind and rain but the weather improved markedly in the following days. They found the fish quite "choosy", noting that success came only if you presented the right fly. For instance, with both red and black spinners refused, a possum fur emerger did the trick. They negotiated some rugged tracks in their hire car and had to do a thorough clean job before returning it. Gary B also had some time in Victoria fishing the Rubicon and Goulburn rivers. And a few days before the meeting he fished the Minnamurra for a flounder, and Shoalhaven Heads for 6 flathead, the best at 50cm.



Fishing Reports

Glenn and Tom Short, and Pam Mort had a great time on the water over summer. A week in the Blue Mountains area was followed by several weeks in the Snowies, covering the Swampy Plains, the Snowy, the Thredbo and Tumut rivers, plus Ogilvies Creek, Tantangera Creek and Murrumbidgee river. On a drift on the Tumut young Tom landed 60 fish, all on nymphs. Glenn was chuffed to report his first brook trout on the Thredbo.



Ken Gordon did a drift on the Tumut and lost count of fish taken, all on nymphs. A subsequent trip yielded Ken a personal best of a 3lb brown. On Caves Creek at Blue Waterholes he reported he had a fish on every cast, whether presenting a dry, streamer or nymph.



Fishing Reports

Peter Henderson went offshore chasing dolphin fish, kingfish and marlin. Best kingfish was 50 cm. With a 16wt rod he had hopes for a hookup on marlin, coming close with a fish of about 50kg coming right to the back of the boat chasing the teaser but not the fly. Later, Peter raised another fish estimated at 150 - 200kg which responded to the teaser but wouldn't come close enough to the boat to make a cast with the fly. He thought it was probably a good thing he didn't hook this fish as there was a good chance of losing a rod, reel and fly line. Inshore, Peter fished Lake Conjola for 12 flathead, whiting and bream, using a shrimp pattern.

Barry Gentle took a trip to the Twizel area in New Zealand. He felt the fishing was somewhat poor in the canals, with only fish to 2lb there. He fished the Waitaki river using spey technique for fish to 1lb. Bigger fish were encountered in a tributary with rainbows to 4lb being taken from knee-deep water. In the Tasman river at the base of Mt. Cook he landed a 4-pounder. Probably the best fishing was on the Twizel river, netting a 6lb brown and several at 4 lb.



Closer to home, Barry fished at Foster chasing bream around the oyster leases using a Disco Shrimp. Several fish were lost as it's hard to stop a big bream running for cover when your tippet is only 6lb. Barry did net a good whiting at 34cm.



Fishing Reports

Mal Lowe fished the Shoalhaven below Tallowa Dam for some small bass.

Chris and Liam Harding also fished for bass but in Boughton Creek, taking a few.



Neil Nelson and Mike Parkinson fished the Cox's river below McKane's Falls bridge. The day commenced with great promise with rises in the first pool encountered on the river and lots of mayfly, large and small, dancing above the water. On Mike's second cast he had a fish on but dropped it. Minutes later Neil landed a 38cm rainbow from a run, it having taken a small nymph dropper. And they were basically the last fish seen all day! Extraordinary that the fish just seemed to vanish from a kilometre stretch of river.

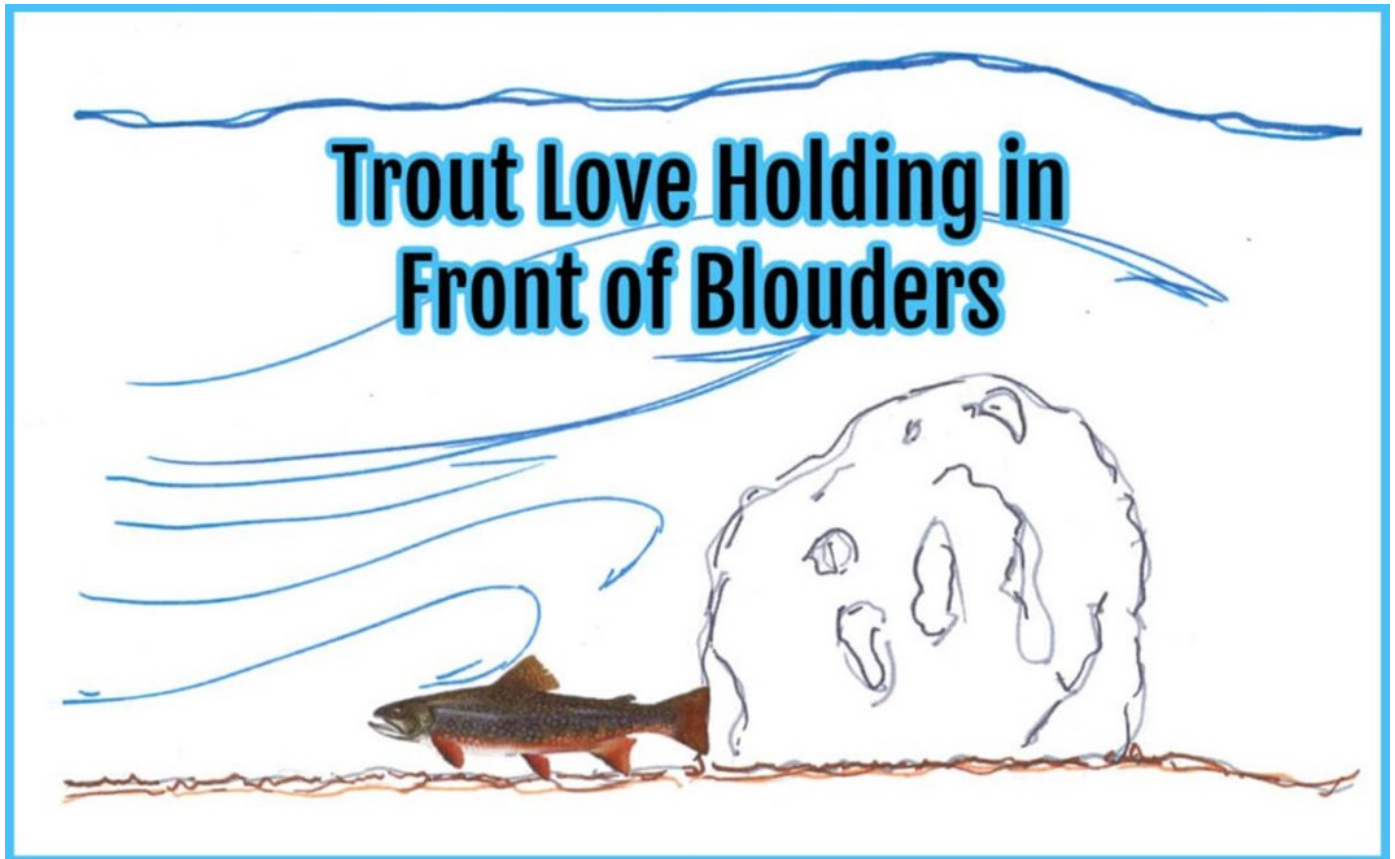
Joe Manzano from Eucumbene river. Fishing around the mouth fish all caught on Grouse Mudeyes up in the trees fish taken on sedges and plain unweighted black nymphs. Water levels dropping around Denison's but plenty of big fishing rising to damsels. Even some mudeyes were taken off the surface with using floatant



Finding and Catching More Trout on Your Next Trip.

Learn about the key factors to consider when reading the water for fly fishing, and discover the characteristics of a great fly fishing river. Find out what conditions are needed for trout to thrive, and get tips on how to find the best fly fishing rivers. From researching online to joining a fly fishing club or organization.

There are many ways to discover new and exciting rivers to explore. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced fly fisher, this information can help you improve your skills and increase your chances of success on the water.



READING THE WATER LIKE A PRO

Reading the water is an important aspect of fly fishing, as it can help you determine where to cast your line and what type of fly to use. Here are some tips for reading the water:

Look for patterns in the flow of the water. Different types of water, such as riffles, runs, and pools, will have different characteristics and hold different types of fish.

Observe the color and clarity of the water. Clear, clean water is generally easier to fish in than muddy water, as fish will be able to see your fly more easily.

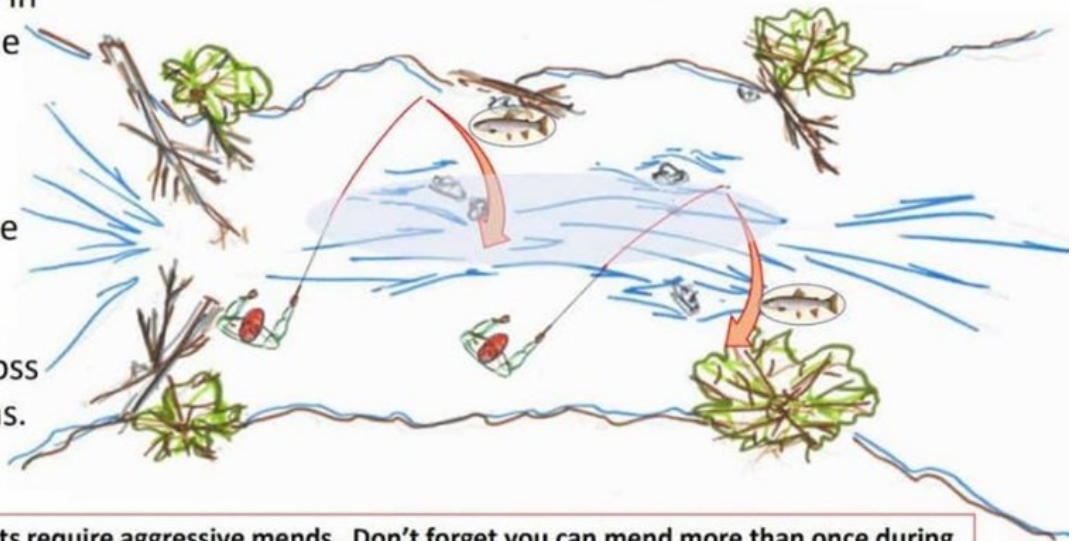
Pay attention to the direction and speed of the current. Fish will often hold in areas where the current is

Finding and Catching More Trout on Your Next Trip.

Straight Run

In a run, fish are typically in the obstructions along the edges. The run will concentrate food, but a trout will expend lots of energy if positioned in the main current.

Be careful wading in fast current, try to cast $\frac{3}{4}$ across and drift into obstructions.



Guide Secret – fast currents require aggressive mends. Don't forget you can mend more than once during a drift.

slower, such as behind rocks or in eddies.

Look for areas where the water depth changes. Fish will often be found in these areas, as they provide a variety of habitat and cover.

Keep an eye out for any visible aquatic life, such as insects or small fish. This can give you clues as to what type of fly to use and where to cast your line.

By taking the time to observe and analyze the characteristics of the water, you can increase your chances of success while fly fishing.

FOUR TRICKS FOR FINDING A GREAT FLY FISHING RIVER

- **Research online:** There are many websites and forums dedicated to fly fishing that can provide valuable information about different rivers and their fishing conditions. Look for reviews and recommendations from other fly fishers, as well as information about the types of fish that are found in the river and the best times of year to fish.
- **Join a fly fishing club or organization:** Joining a club or organization can provide access to a network of experienced fly fishers who can offer advice and recommendations about different rivers. Many clubs also organize group trips and outings, which can be a great way to explore new rivers and meet other fly fishers.
- **Contact local fly fishing guides or outfitters:** Local fly fishing guides and outfitters often have extensive knowledge about the best rivers in the area and can provide valuable information and tips.
- **Ask for recommendations from other fly fishers:** Other fly fishers can be a great source of information about great fly fishing rivers. Talk to friends, family members, or coworkers who fly fish, and ask for their recommendations and advice.

TAILWATER FISHERIES ARE AMAZING

A tailwater fishery is a type of fishery that is located downstream of a dam or other water control structure. These systems are characterized by a consistent flow of water, which is regulated by the dam or other structure. Tailwater fisheries are often known for their clear, cold water, which can provide ideal habitat for certain types of fish.

Finding and Catching More Trout on Your Next Trip.

Tailwater fisheries are often popular for fly fishing, as the consistent flow of water can create specific habitats and conditions that attract certain species of fish. Some common fish species found in tailwater fisheries include trout, bass, and panfish.

Tailwater fisheries are also often managed and regulated by government agencies or other organizations, in order to ensure the health and sustainability of the fishery. This can involve measures such as catch-and-release policies, fishing limits, and habitat protection.

Guide Pro Tip: With more time on the water you'll get a "feel" for where the trout should be.



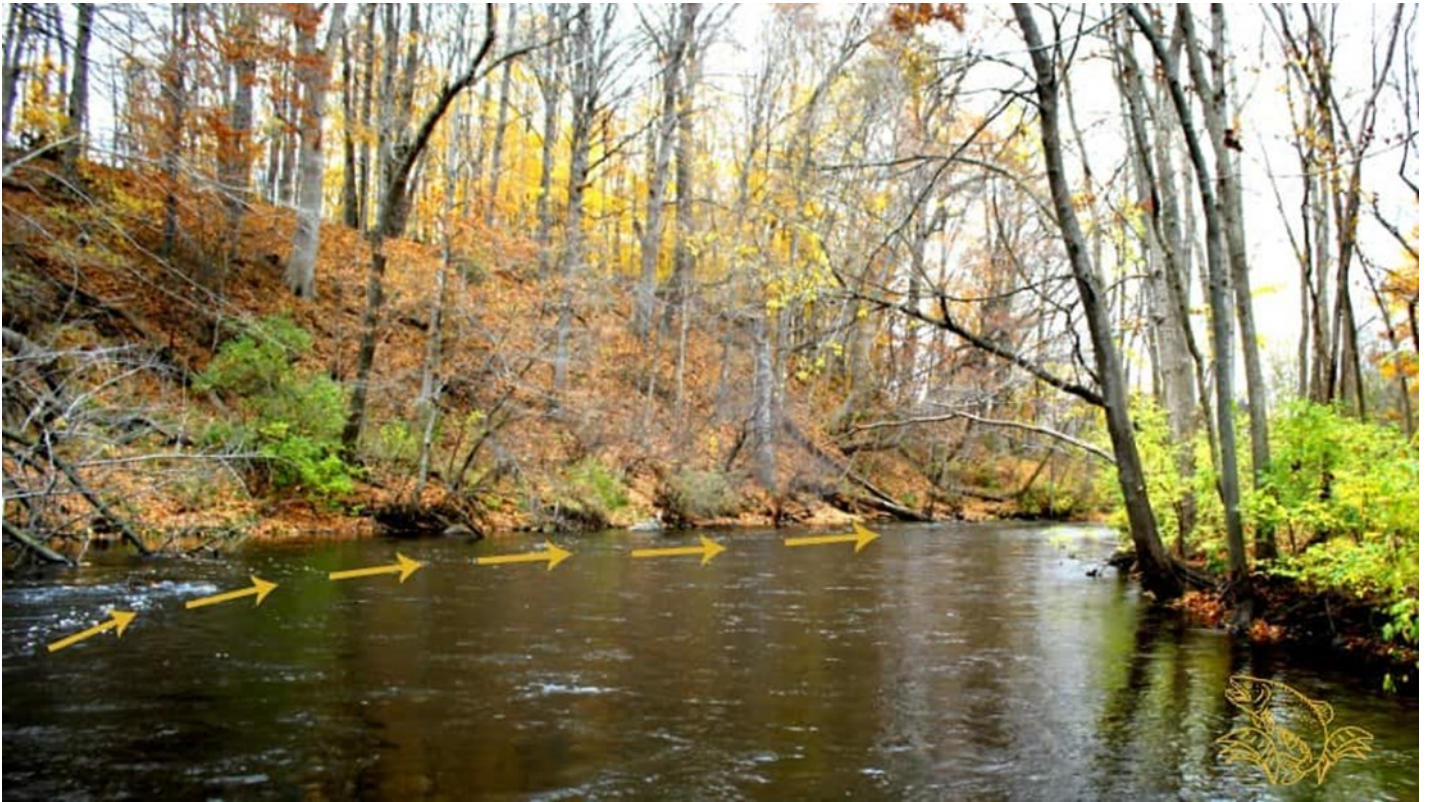
CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT FLY FISHING RIVER

Accessible and diverse habitat: A river with a variety of habitat types, such as deep pools, fast-moving riffles, and slow-moving runs, can provide a range of options for fly fishing and support a diverse population of fish.

Clean, clear water: Clear water allows for better visibility and can make it easier for fish to see your fly. It also generally indicates a healthy ecosystem, which can be beneficial for both the fish and the fly fisher.

Consistent water flow: A consistent flow of water can create specific habitat types and conditions that are attractive to certain species of fish. This can include areas with slower or faster currents, as well as areas with different depths.

Finding and Catching More Trout on Your Next Trip.



Abundant and diverse aquatic life: Rivers with a healthy population of aquatic insects, such as mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies, can provide a reliable food source for fish and can also give fly fishers clues as to what types of flies to use.

Managed and regulated fishing: Rivers that are managed and regulated for fishing can help ensure the sustainability of the fishery and the health of the ecosystem. This can involve measures such as catch-and-release policies, fishing limits, and habitat protection.

FACTORS NEEDED FOR TROUT TO THRIVE

Trout are a popular species for fly fishing and are found in a variety of habitats around the world. In order for trout to thrive, there are three main factors that they require:

Clean, oxygenated water: Trout need clean, oxygenated water to survive. They are sensitive to water pollution and can be negatively affected by poor water quality.

A reliable food source: Trout rely on a variety of food sources, such as insects, small fish, and crayfish. A healthy population of these food sources is essential for the survival of trout. The study of bugs is called Entomology, but for me and you **we call them Bugs**”.

Suitable habitat: Trout require specific habitat conditions in order to thrive. This can include areas with cover, such as rocks or logs, and areas with a range of water depths. In addition, trout often prefer colder water temperatures and may be found in areas with higher elevation or in streams with snowmelt or glacial runoff.

By ensuring that these three factors are present, fly fishers and resource managers can help support the health and sustainability of trout populations.

Finding and Catching More Trout on Your Next Trip.

ONE MORE CAST TO FISHY WATER

Reading the water is an important aspect of fly fishing, as it can help you determine where to cast your line and what type of fly to use. To do this, you should look for patterns in the flow of the water, observe the color and clarity of the water, pay attention to the direction and speed of the current, look for areas where the water depth changes, and keep an eye out for any visible aquatic life.

A tailwater fishery is a type of fishery that is located downstream of a dam or other water control structure. These systems are known for their clear, cold water and are often popular for fly fishing.

There are several factors that can contribute to a great fly fishing river. These include accessible and diverse habitat, clean and clear water, consistent water flow, abundant and diverse aquatic life, and managed and regulated fishing.

Trout are a popular species for fly fishing and require clean, oxygenated water, a reliable food source, and suitable habitat in order to thrive. By ensuring that these factors are present, fly fishers and resource managers can help support the health and sustainability of trout populations.

Casting Results.

Casting results for February were as follows:

<i>Accuracy:</i> 1st	Peter Henderson	26pts
2nd	David Treinis	22pts
	Michael Parkinson	22pts
3rd	Nigel Pennington	21pts

<i>Distance:</i> 1st	Peter Henderson	29m
2nd	Peter Fragiaco	24m
3rd	Mark West	21.5m

There were 11 attendees on the day, with 6 participating in the competition.

Know Your Fish.

Long Tail Tuna

Scientific Name.

Thunnus Tonggol

Characteristics

Longtail Tuna, also known as Northern Bluefin Tuna, are a member of the family Scombridae. These dark blue-backed fish are recognised by their short pectoral fins and slender bodies. Longtail Tuna are also distinguished by the presence of elongated, colourless spots on the underside and belly, between the pectoral and anal fins.



Longtail Tuna are also distinguished by the presence of elongated, colourless spots on the underside and belly, between the pectoral and anal fins.

Size

Longtail Tuna reach a maximum length of 1.5 m and up to 32 kg in weight. The majority of fish caught by anglers weigh less than 15 kg.

Distribution

Longtail Tuna are a tropical species that frequently occur in more southern waters of Australia's east and west coasts during summer. They are generally distributed throughout waters of northern Australia, from Cockburn Sound in Western Australia to southern NSW (Twofold Bay, Eden).

Confusing species

Similar in appearance to Southern Bluefin, but possess a more streamline body, particularly the rear half.

Merchandise.



IFFC Shirts - vented back, gusseted pockets, long sleeves, UV protection

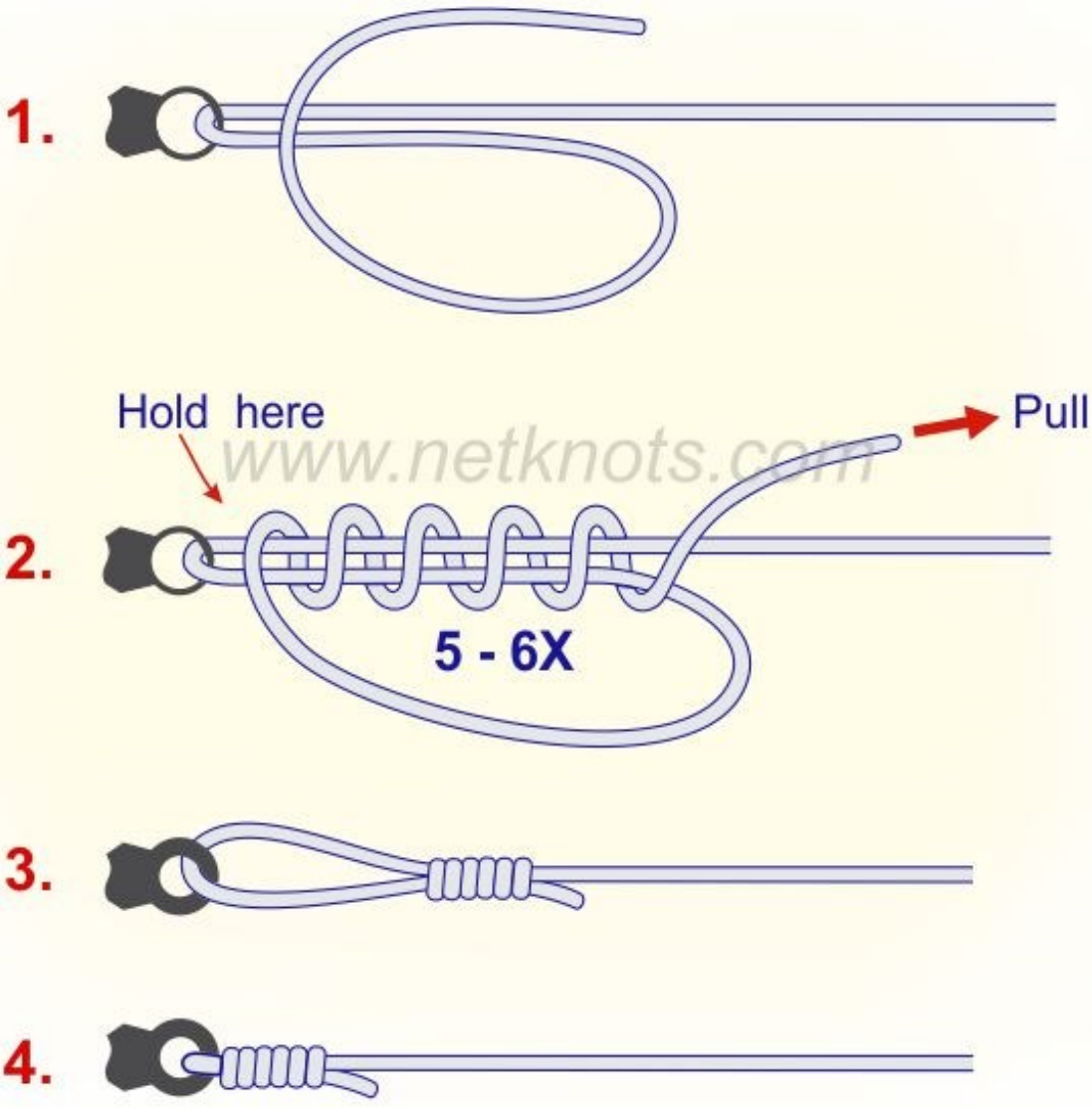
- IFFC badge decals
- IFFC hat pins
- IFFC embroidered Patches
- IFFC Hoodies (in season only)

Support your club. Buy some merchandise...wear a shirt, put a sticker on your boat or on your car or esky. Buy an Illawarra Fly Fishers embroidered patch and sew it on your vest!"

Fish Register. 18th December, 2023

Species	Fly Fisher	Length (cm) Weight (kgs)	Fly / Hook Size	Tippet (lbs)	Location.
<i>Australian Bass</i>	Ray Ellis	44cm	Baitfish Pattern	20	Glenbawn Dam
<i>Atlantic Salmon</i>					
<i>Bream</i>					
<i>Brook Trout</i>	Jon Brooks	31	#10 Olive Wooly Bugger	4.8	Three Mile Dam
<i>Brown Trout</i>					
<i>Carp</i>	Ray Ellis	78cm	Brown Nymph	14	Split Rock Dam
<i>Estuary Perch</i>					
<i>Flathead</i>	Barry Gentle	46	Raw Prawn	10	Minnamurra River
<i>Luderick</i>	Alan Griffiths	46	#16 Stretch Cord Shrimp	8	Ballina
<i>Mahi Mahi</i>					
<i>Murray Cod</i>					
<i>Rainbow Trout</i>	Bary Batey	51	Orange Bead Head Nymph	6	Rushy's Bay
<i>Whiting</i>	Barry Gentle	34	SK Skipping Prawn	6	Forster
<i>Tailor</i>					
<i>Trevally</i>					
<i>Yellowbelly</i>					



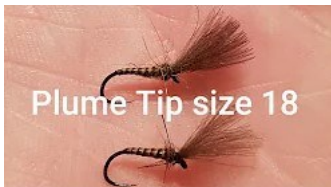






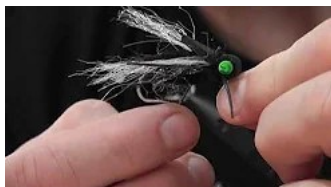

UNI KNOT



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Fly Tying Competition - 2023 / 24

	February	March	April
			
	Fly: Dobson Fly Channel: Hooked on Flies Australia	Fly: Rubicon Bomber Channel: Troutlore	Fly: Plume Tip Channel: Tom Jarman Fishing
May	June	July	August
			
Fly: Simple Game Changer Channel: Erich Gross	Fly: Carp it Beetle Channel: Martyn White Flicking Feathers	Fly: Balloon Caddis Channel: Tom Jarman Fishing	Fly: Frumpy Frog Channel: Ole Florida Fly Shop
September	October	November	December
			
Fly: Micro Jig Woolly Buzzer Channel: Tuckaseege Fly Shop	Fly: Charlie Boy Hopper Channel: In the Riffle	Fly: The Fully Cicada Channel: Hooked on Flies Australia	Fly: Sand Eel - Chartreuse Channel: Postfly

March 2024 Competition Fly.



Fly: Rubicon Bomber
Channel: Troutlore



Instagram

2024 Events Calendar.

Month	Date	Activity	Location	Time	Contact	Number
February	5th	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	6th	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	11th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
March	4th	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	5th	Club Meeting.	Collegians	7:30pm		
	10th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
April	1st	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	2nd	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	7th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
May	6th	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	7th	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	12th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
June	3rd	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	4th	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	16th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
July	1st	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	2nd	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:00pm		
	7th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
August	5th	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	6th	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	11th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
September	2nd	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	3rd	Annual General Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	8th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
October	30 Sept	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	1st	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	13th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
November	4th	Management Meeting - All Welcome	Zoom	7:30pm	Neil	0418 258 146
	5th	Club Meeting	Collegians	7:30pm		
	10th	Casting Clinic	Towradgi Park	10:00am	Peter	0418 956 606
December	2nd TBA	Management Meeting - All Welcome Christmas Function	Zoom TBA	7:30pm 12:00pm	Neil	0418 258 146

Committee Members 2023 / 24



President: Neil Nelson.



Vice President: Chris Harding.



Secretary: Michael Parkinson.



Treasurer: Barry Gentle.



**Newsletter Editor
Fly Tying Comp Co-Ord:**
Dave Connon.



Largest Fish Co-ordinator:
Phil O'Brien.



Casting Co-Ordinator:
Peter Fragiacomò.



Webmaster & Public Officer:
Gary Hickson.



Instagram: Joe Manzano.



Facebook: Liam Harding



Raffles: Malcolm Lowe.



Librarian: Kenneth Gordon

Library.

Our Librarian, Gary Batey, wishes to remind members to return of any outstanding borrowed library items.



The Club maintains a library of books and DVD's, as well as over a hundred magazines including "Fly Life" and a number of English and American trout fishing magazines.

To borrow books etc., see the Club Librarian (Gary Batey) and fill out the appropriate sheet... it's as easy as that. Please endeavour to return your borrowings at the next club meeting.

Our Sponsors.

The Illawarra Fly Fishers' Club is supported by a number of sponsors. Please remember them when buying new gear and support them as they support our club.

- Collegians Rugby League Football Club provides us with the use of the auditorium for our meetings at no cost and a substantial number of gift vouchers that we use in our raffles, so please consider becoming a member of the Club. You also receive discounts on food and drinks with Collegians membership.
- Complete Angler Sydney kindly donates a \$ 50.00 voucher for our monthly club raffle and members receive 10% discount on all purchases.
- BWC Flies



Illawarra Fly Fishers Club Inc.

Application for New Membership / Renewal.



Cost:

Membership fees for the club year (August 1 to July 31 The following year) fall due at the AGM on the first Tuesday in August and are as follows:

- ◆ For Commonwealth pension card holders, holders of Commonwealth disability card, full time students, students under 16 years of age, or non-residents (those members residing a distance greater than 50kms from Wollongong) - \$10.00 per person per year. Under the provisions of the Club's Constitution, a self funded retiree or superannuant is not a pensioner.
- ◆ For all others (including self funded retirees) - \$25.00 per person per year.
- ◆ Where a new member joins on or after the first Tuesday in April, half membership fees apply, i.e.e \$5.00 for a pensioner and \$12.50 for all other members (including self funded retirees).
- ◆ An establishment (joining) fee, in addition to the annual fee, applies to all new members—\$2.00.

How:

To apply for membership, fill out the application below and either:

- ◆ Present it, together with your payment, to the Treasurer at the club meeting, or
- ◆ Email a completed form to: treasurer@illawarraflyfishers.com.au and pay via a funds transfer to

CUA BSB: 814282 Account No: 42098170 Account Name: Illawarra Flyfishers Club Inc

Please ensure your name is entered in the "payment reference" field.

Name:

Please Tick:

New Member

Address:

Renewal

State:

Post Code:

Phone:

H:

M:

Email:

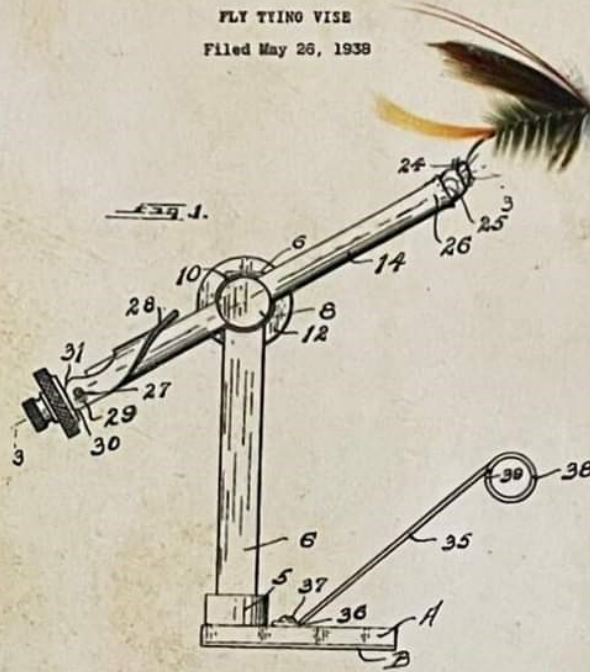
Please Note: All members personal details are treated in a strictly confidential manner and are not provided to other persons /groups without the express permission of members.

The Final Word.

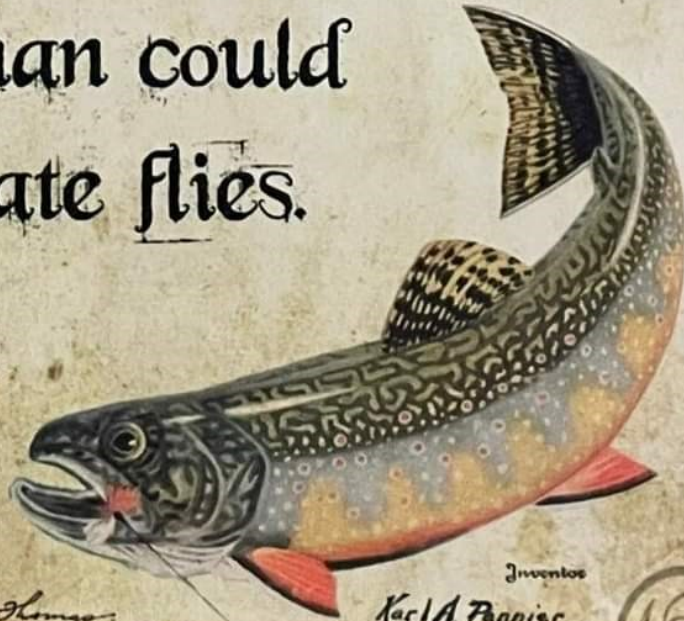
April 1, 1941.

K. A. PANNIER
FLY TYING VISE
Filed May 26, 1938

2,236,781



GOD made trout,
so man could
create flies.



By R. M. Thomas
Attorney

Inventor
Karl A. Pannier