



Fly Lines

September 2024

In This Issue	Page
Welcome	1
Club fishing report	2-3
WINTER FISHING	3 - 9
Know your fish	8
Casting results	10
Fishing Reports	11-15
Fish Register	16
Get Knotted	17
Merchandise	12
Fish Register	16
Get Knotted	17
2024 Comp Flies	18
August 2024 Fly	19
Event Calendar	20
IFFC Committee	21
Library	22
Our Sponsors	22
Membership Applic	23
Final Thought	24

Welcome.

▶ **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 3rd September

▶ **Casting Practice:**

Sunday 8th Septemebr 2024.

10:00am

Towradgi Reserve, Towradgi

▶ **September Guest Speaker:**

Wayne Dixon, Snowy Flies.

Wayne will talk on Snowy Mountains Entymology and will also tie a few flies.

If someone says you fish too much, stop talking to them.

You don't need that kind of negativity in your life.



Fishing Report – Club Meeting 6th August 2024

The trout rivers closed there were some excursions to the lakes and several saltwater activities.

Rony Dimitrieski, with a friend who's new to fly fishing, fished Kiama Harbour for Luderick. There were also garfish about but the Luderick gave them plenty of action being quite close to the surface, helped by some bread burley. Similar effort with the burley off the rocks south of the blowhole yielded no results

Paul Steffen (this time without **David Treinis** who is on a sojourn in the USA) fished off the rocks at Austinmer, and had success on the Luderick, with both weighted and unweighted weed flies.

Barry Gentle, Kim Prehn and **Chris Harding** headed to the South Coast chasing salmon. Merimbula yielded no results, largely affected by the presence of seals. They did hook on to some big tailor but, as is often the case, were bitten off. A different story prevailed on the Pambula River where "lots of fish" were taken, principally on an olive/white Surf Candy. Chris' best fish measured 58cm.

Neil Nelson and **Mike Parkinson** fished the Pambula River the week after Chris and co., and "had a ball". The first fish was only small but size increased as the numbers increased. The bulk of the fish were in the mid-50cm range with the best at 63cm. Each one of them took some effort to get to the net. Flies used were small (#6) Surf Candy and Eye Flies. Best success was with a fast sinking line and a relatively fast strip.



Club fishing report

Ken Gordon fished Minnamurra for luderick to 30cm.

Gary Hickson fished Lake Eucumbene. With the lake level falling to 47% he encountered quite muddy shores, notably in Rushies Bay. He did take several fish, the best being a 40cm rainbow, but it was after lots of walking around Frying Pan, Middlingbank and more. Best fly a Damsel Fly Nymph.

Nigel Pennington also fished Lake Eucumbene along with **Matt Wright**, both from a boat and off the bank. In areas out of the wind they could readily polaroid. They encountered plenty of fish around the lake edges though finding them “nervous”. Over three days they caught an average of 10 fish per day on Woolly Buggers, brown and orange. Nigel noted that on one day they had to shovel snow out of the boat!

Dave Cannon went south to Lake Burrumbeet west of Ballarat, where he participated in two-handed Spey casting lessons. Fishing the edges he “threw everything at ‘em” but the fish were not cooperative. A similar story occurred at Lake Bullen Merri near Camperdown. But the fun is in being there!!

Winter Fishing Opportunities

Editors note: some articles to get you out and searching- no such thing as an off season



Finding Luderick

Luderick are a very accessible species for most of the estuary anglers along the East Coast of Australia, ranging in distribution from southern Queensland through to Tasmania. During the cooler months, large schools of luderick form up and occupy most estuary systems, with a strong following of anglers who are dedicated to targeting the species.

To begin your search for luderick, start looking around rock walls, jetty pylons, ocean platforms and weed beds. Concentrations of available food in the area will help you out, so look for the bright green weed and cabbage often found attached to rocks. Fish need to eat and their primary source of food will not be far away.

Winter Fishing Opportunities

Other areas to search are through the tidal current eddies and pockets of slack water just off the main flow.

During the cooler months, you'll find large schools of luderick in most estuary systems, from southern Queensland through to Tasmania.

OUTFITS

A fly outfit in the 4 weight to 6 weight class will be sufficient for most estuary situations, and the fish will put up a nice account for themselves on those outfits matched with a floating weight forward fly line, purposely built for Saltwater use, with a moderate aggressive head for turning over and repositioning flies with ease.

Floating lines are my preference as the line can be managed / mended easily from the surface film. It results in a cleaner fly presentation during the drift and a reduced amount of belly in the line and allows for a quick hook set.

The water depth most often determines the leader length. We use around 9 foot as a starting point and will either chop or add depending on what is needed.

Remember, the above is the type of set up that I am using and I have confidence using it in the local luderick locations. There is a whole range of options available in the area of lines and leaders that may suit you better; full intermediate lines, sink tip lines, sinking lines, just to name a few.

Let the water depth determine your leader length. Start with approximately 9 foot, and then chop or add, depending on the circumstances of the day.



Winter Fishing Opportunities

FLIES

You will need weed flies, with a few variations in your kit to be prepared to present the fly in varying water depths.

Let's start with the colours – Bright Green, Olive, Blended and Brown Weed flies, in the hook sizes 6 through 14, with sizes 8 and 10 delivering most of the success from my experience. It pays to carry an array of sizes and colours in your kit, so you can change to suit the mood of the fish or conditions that you are fishing in.

An important consideration is the weight requirements of the fly. A correctly weighted fly will allow for the ideal depth presentation into the active feeding zone. This element is critical to your success and consequently there is a good range of options to choose from, from zero weight, brass bead, lead wrap through to the heaviest, being tungsten bead. The choice of weight will have a significant impact on your fly presentation — essentially, the choice needs to be based on the sink rate required and depth you want to present the fly to the fish.

If you are into tying your own weed flies, look no further than the range of Tiewell Weed Dub. The product leads the way by a tidal mile when it comes to simplicity of use, durability and is super effective. Three colours that are currently available are Green, Olive and Dark Brown. All representing types of stringy weed found in the estuary system.

Carry a range of sizes, weights and colours in your weed fly kit, so you can change to suit the mood of the fish or conditions that you are fishing in.

SET UP

When targeting luderick in shallow water, the set up has a minimalist approach; tapered leader made of fluorocarbon, [9 foot](#) in length, with a two fly rig. Depending on the tidal strength, a brass bead fly, weighted lead fly or a tungsten bead fly will be used at the end of your main leader, with an unweighted weed fly trailing 30cm behind.

In the deeper water, an indicator set up is employed, much like setting up an indicator rig for trout nymphing. Whilst still maintaining the 9-foot leader, a Thingamabobber indicator is attached and set to the depth that you want to fish the flies. The Thingamabobbers create little resistance and are easily adjusted so you can make a depth change whenever necessary. They are also available in a few sizes depending on the buoyancy requirements of your location. In the calm water estuaries and along the protected edges of rock walls, the small size seems fine. In the stronger currents, heavy washes or windblown rock walls, the next size is required. It is wise and strongly recommended to have a few indicator options in your kit. There are plenty of options out there to choose from. Find an indicator that you are confident with and run with it.

In both set ups, run a 10 to [12 pound](#) leader as the main line. On the trailing flies, on rock walls, 10 – [12 pound](#) is maintained, however in shallow water situations, we will drop down to around 6 or [8 pound](#) breaking strain.

There is, of course, sight-fishing opportunities available to really get you into chasing down these little striped battlers, and in these scenarios you will be ditching the indicators as quick as you can. Straight through tension to the fly is required. The eats vary from a timid chew to a smash and grab of the drifting weed fly. One of my most memorable sessions comes from sight fishing on the flats. Upon arrival at the chosen destination, a quick wade across the flats and there they were; backs out of the water, sitting high in the water column scoffing down weed that had been dislodged from heavy seas the day prior.

Carry a few indicator options in your kit. There are plenty of options to choose from. Find an indicator that you are confident with and run with it.

Winter Fishing Opportunities

TWO-FLY RIGS

In almost all situations, I will set up the two fly rig. This is done by attaching the weighted weed fly at the end of your tapered leader and then an unweighted weed fly tied directly from the head fly hook bend with a 15cm to 30cm length of fluorocarbon.

The tungsten bead is the lead fly, with the unweighted weed fly trailing behind. In most cases, but not all, the eat comes from the trailing fly. The 15-30cm separation from leading fly to the trailing fly seems to provide good success.

The presentation of the fly is up and across the current, allowing the rig to drift with the tidal flow and swing until the drift on your fly becomes unnatural. Mend the line as you go to keep in relative contact with the fly. Large bellies of fly line floating around in the current will result in a lot of missed opportunities.

Most importantly, don't forget to set the hook! Traditionally, an upward lifting of the rod was used which is derived from the float fisherman driving home the hook. We find a solid strip set without lifting the fly rod will see good results, when proper management of line and leader is in place.

Stay in contact with your fly. Large bellies of fly line floating around in the current will result in a lot of missed opportunities.

I hope this helps you out with your pursuit of luderick on the fly. They are a fun, challenging and rewarding species to pursue in your local estuary system.

Enjoy!

Brett Clarke BWCflies

<https://bwcflies.com.au/>



Know your fish: Luderick



Scientific name

Girella tricuspidata

Characteristics

Luderick are generally dark green/brown in colour with a silvery-grey belly. They possess 8-12 dark, narrow vertical bands across the back. They are mainly herbivorous, feeding on seagrass and green algae, and sometimes molluscs, prawns and polychaete worms. Angling for Luderick has a 'cult-like' following. Long, flexible rods, very small hooks and pencil floats are commonly used, with green weed the preferred bait. Most luderick are caught in winter.

Size

Maximum of approximately 4 kg and a length of 70 cm.

Distribution

Generally restricted to shallow coastal waters and estuaries along the east coast, between southern Queensland (around Noosa Heads) and Tasmania. Luderick are often found in large schools around rocky outcrops and jetties.

Confusing species

Zebra fish (*Girella zebra*), however, they are rarely found in southern New South Wales and they possess wide stripes on the body (as wide as the gaps).

Winter Fishing Opportunities

Winter Fly Fishing in the Snowy Mountains

Written by [Mickey Finn](#).

Put yourself in the shoes, and/or fins of a big brown trout that's made an epic voyage over early winter. You've smelt the late autumn rain, seen the first of the winter snow and have been driven on a journey that in human terms could be described as walking barefoot from the Snowy Mountains to the Queensland coast. Which we'd all do if it was possibly the only chance we'd get to mate in our lives.



After the next generation has been secured, you feel the fatigue set in and drift with the current, exhausted. Eventually you make your way back down whatever mighty river you ran up, back to the lake you call home. Like all living things, once one craving is satisfied the next sets in. Now you need to feed. Big brown trout go through this cycle every year. Generally, they are paid the greatest attention when they are at their most vulnerable; running up rivers to spawn and get caught in great bottle-necks where anglers take advantage of these migrations. However, for the hardy folks that are prepared to endure Snowy Mountains winter storms, frozen waves breaking over the bows of small boats and the occasional sunny day where the main threat is winter sunburn, these fish are there to be had all winter as they feed up hard after their run. Winter trout are predators looking to put the maximum weight back on in the shortest period. In short, they hunt down, kill and consume the largest prey they can get their mouths around in the wintertime. So we tie on the biggest trout flies we have and get after them. Takes are often vicious and will sometimes have the same fish coming multiple times for the fly. In the clear winter water you can watch it all happen. If you're lucky and hit the right conditions there is a real possibility to encounter a trophy trout in the middle of a calm winter's day, destroying a streamer within feet of your boat.

Even if you come back empty handed, you usually get to see a few buzzing the streamer, trying to scare it to death before refusing it for some unknown reason. At the very least, you get to get out of the house and go fishing for trout. An opportunity very accessible to us here in Tumut and with a bit of research (or just ask us), available to many.

Now, go tie on some big flies and get after a trophy-winter-streamer-eater.

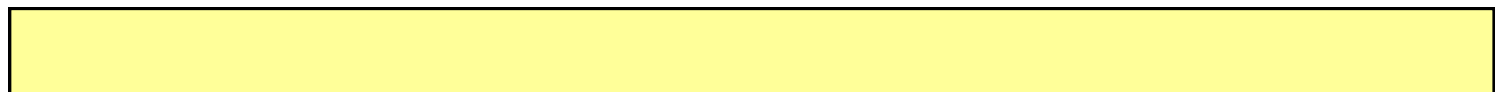
Courtesy of Toms Outdoors



Pasting Results.

Accuracy: Peter Henderson 1st with score of 46 points, Barry Gentle 2nd with 41 points, and Neil Nelson 3rd with 23 points

Distance: Peter Henderson 1st with 31m, Barry Gentle 2nd with 29m and Gary Batey 3rd with 26m.



Fishing reports



The fish of the week was Michael's Michael's 64cm brute, taken on a No.6 eye fly.

Fishing Report: Far South Coast – July 22 to 25, 2024

Michael Parkinson and I spent a week down the far South coast chasing Australian Salmon over the week of July 22 to 25.

Unfortunately the wind was absolutely howling on Monday on the trip down and although it was abating over the week, it proved to be challenging casting a fly.

Nonetheless, the sunshine was kinder to us and we had no rain to speak of.

Luckily the fish played the game from the get-go and although the first few were on the smaller side, we were quickly onto a consistent size of around 56 and 58 cms, all falling to No.6 Surf Candies and Eye Flies. Michael had an absolute blinder of a time, Landing most and best.

Neil Nelson

Fishing Reports.

My recent trip to Pambula, for the Salmon run saw biggest to 58cm and on average countless fish to 45-50cm. Most time fish a cast! Biggest caught on my 1/0 stretch prawn (Griffo's imitation) using 9wt sinking lines 20lb tippet Joe Manzano (editors note: thereby proving that predatory fish eat what looks good, not solely what they are feeding on at the time as it seems unlikely that prawns were running at the time).



Fishing Reports.

Braemer bay expedition: Nigel and Matt

Braemer Bay was selected as an option, because that is becoming one of our go to spots for Lake fishing, particularly because we could use the boat and access most parts of the lake. In reality a boat is not really necessary there because you can walk long parts of the shoreline, on the northern side or alternatively around to the popular Coppermine Bay. We hired a unit also, because camping midwinter didn't seem very attractive, and of course most accommodation options on the other side of the lake are expensive or not available.

So we spent 2 1/2 days there. First two days were surprisingly mild. The wind had a bit of bite to it but quite pleasant in the sunshine most of the day. Both those days we caught fish regularly during the day. Plenty of rainbows around 2 lb or so. I got a good Brown in the boulders probably 3 pound. We polaroided some really good browns but they were spooky and we probably should've changed from woolly buggers to nymphs for them. As per the general advice fishing along a lake edge that had wind blowing into it and a muddy edge was more successful for Brown trout particularly. However Matt couldn't take a trick, he lost three big Browns in a row (he's now full of doubt poor soul).

The other important technique was to look for the Clay banks on the shoreline, which typically represent old yabby beds when the lake was significantly higher than it is now. These areas consistently produced fish on small woolly buggers with orange/ Brown the go to colour. The fish that we cleaned all had small yabbies in them, so presumably this represented yabbies that were moving to new holes following the receding water. Sinking lines with slow draws and twitches were effective.

On the last night there was a snowfall, so it was pretty interesting launching in the snow. It didn't seem to affect the fish, the water temperature hadn't dropped from the 7°C mark and we again caught fish around the edges using woolly buggers.



Fishing Reports.

Fishing Report – Minamurra River Day Trip 17.08.24 Seven members attended the club day trip to the mouth of the Minamurra River on Saturday, August 17 chasing Blackfish (Luderick), although if we count Gary Batey, who turned up for a chat, a cuppa and an ice vovo biscuit after all the fishing was done, we had eight. Despite a huge thunderstorm passing over the Shire the evening before which potentially threatened another cancellation of this trip, Saturday proved to be excellent weather-wise, with little cloud, lovely warm temperatures and only a puff of wind coming in from the North West every now and again. Unfortunately the fish weren't playing the game, with only one fish caught and then released by Tony, although it may have been Tony's space age lenses in his sunglasses which gave him superior fish sighting powers. Despite the low fish count we had a great morning fishing, finishing up with a chat over a cuppa and an ice vovo biscuit. The "arse up" award went to Ron who, while attempting to dance over the oyster encrusted boulders, unsuccessfully pulled off a pike with twist and ended up in the drink; thankfully it wasn't a heads-under dunking. Yes, we have the photos to prove Ron's ignominious entry into the water and yes, those photos will, no doubt, be replayed at Christmas functions for years to come. Thanks to all those who attended on the day. Neil Nelson



Fishing reports

Glenn and I had a great day at TCD a couple of weeks ago, although my day turned out to be greater than Glenn's. We fished the eastern side into a brisk wind with double nymphs. Glenn caught a little rainbow, then I caught five little rainbows and a 1.5 pound jack. We moved a bit further along and Glenn caught another little rainbow. I caught four. We caught the fish on pink tags, orange bead-headed green dreams (Tom's recipe) and flashback pheasant tail nymphs. Fishing the wind lanes just past the drop offs seemed to do the trick, for me at least. TCD seems to be an easy fishery. I won't ever go back

Pam Short

Hi. Got out for a couple of hours in the gale!!
Fish caught on elkhorn rod I won a few years ago.
55cm on an orange beadhead woolly bugger.
At four Springs lake

Gary Batey



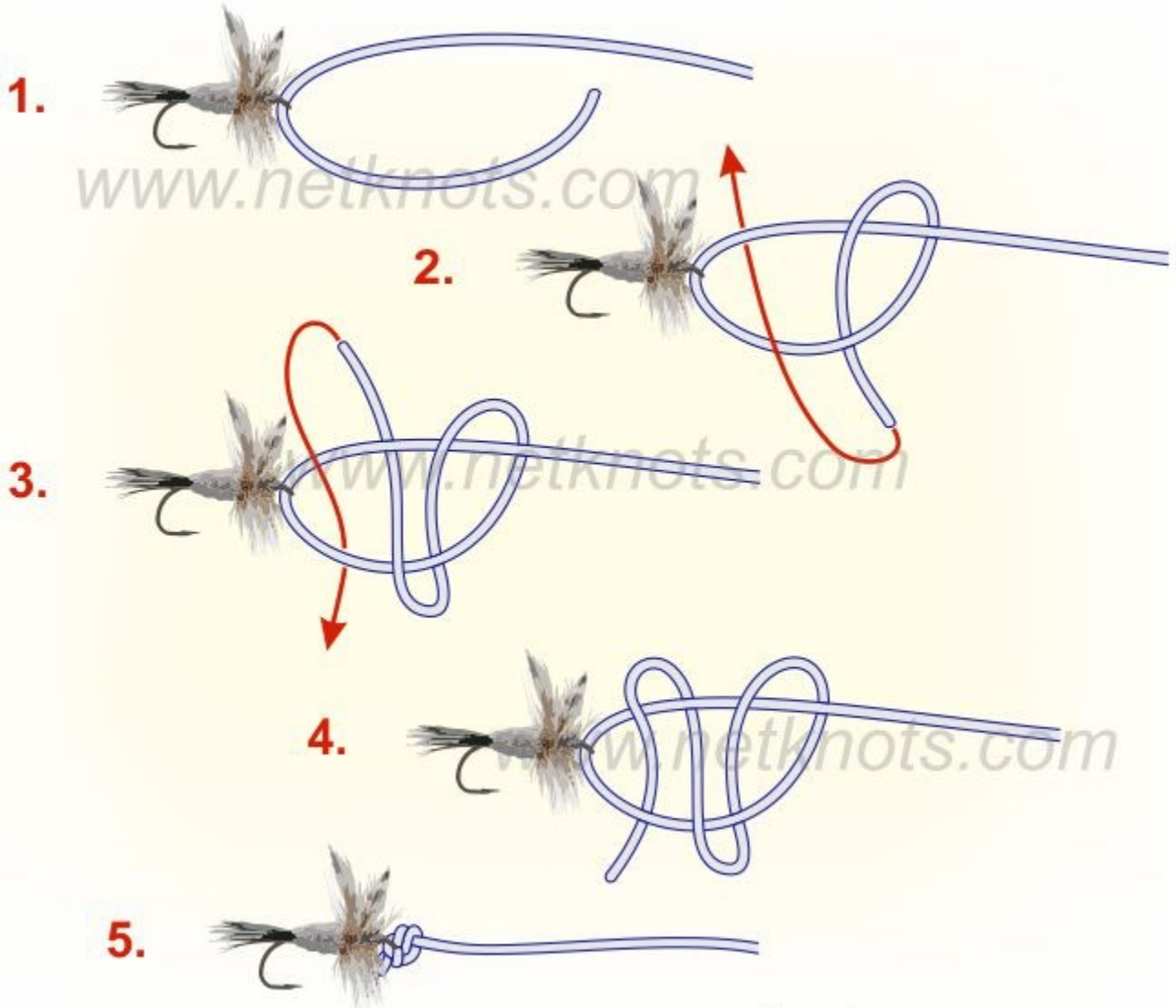
ILLAWARRA FLY FISHERS LARGEST FISH REGISTER

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.

Species	Flyfisher	Length in cm	Fly and Hook Size	Tippet in Pounds	Location
Australian bass					
Australian salmon	Mike Parkinson	64	Eye Fly	16	Pambula river
Bream					
Brook trout					
Brown trout	Nigel Pennington	45	Size 8 fiery brown wooly bugger	7	Braemer Bay
Carp					
Flathead					
Luderick					
Rainbow trout					



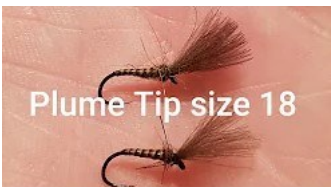






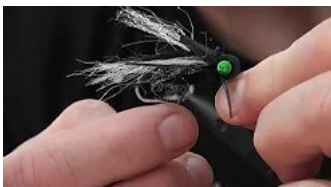

DOUBLE DAVY KNOT



© Copyright 2019 John E. Sherry

www.netknots.com

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

August 2024 Competition Fly.



Fly: Micro Jig Woolly Bugger
Channel: Tuckaseegee Fly Shop



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	Annual General 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	Club 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

Nigel Pennington



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 generously supports the club with raffle prizes each year 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.

**MY BANK ACCOUNT
SAYS GO TO WORK,
BUT MY HEART
SAYS
GO FISHIN'**

