

**DEVONPORT  
FLY FISHING CLUB INC.**

**NEWSLETTER**



**VOLUME 17 No 4**

**April 2010**

OUR AIM  
“TO PROMOTE ALL FACETS OF FLYFISHING  
AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP”

**Club Postal Address Club Inc.**

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Please send articles to either of the  
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**BRONTE CAMP STARTS 9th January 2011**

***Office Bearers 2009– 2010***

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<b><i>Life Members</i></b>	<i>Mr. George Surman</i>		
	<i>Mr. Peter Burr</i>		

**OUR NEXT MEETING DATE IS: May27, 2010**

At the Devonport Library Meeting Room 7:30pm (Side Entrance)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2010

May 11 <sup>th</sup>	MAST presentation – Latrobe 7.00 pm
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Fly tying – Devonport Library 7.30 pm
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Camp Committee meeting 7.30 pm
May 22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>th</sup>	Liawenee Trout weekend 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting-Devonport Library 7.30 pm
June 19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Fly tying weekend – Devon Lodge
October 2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup>	Casting Competition - Cressy
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bronte Camp 2011

**Liawenee Trout weekend:** Members who can attend the our stand for 1 or two hours on one of the days are asked to contact P. Burr on 0429 437 760.

**Camp Committee:** Members interested in working on this committee and interested in taking up the position as the Camp Secretary or Camp Leader are invited to attend the meeting at George's place.

**Devon Lodge Committee:** Members interested in working on this committee are asked to submit their names to Peter Burr at the next meeting (or beforehand if you are unable to attend). The role of this committee will be to prepare a 5 year plan for Lodge improvements, identify maintenance issues and schedule working bees in a timely manner to maximise input from ALL club members.

**Fly Tying weekend:** Interested members should contact Trent Rigby or David Best (it is essential that you book in for catering purposes). The Lodge has to be booked through Barry if you need to stay over night (usual fees apply). George will be catering for lunch (both days) and morning and afternoon teas as well as breakfast on the Sunday. Cost for meals is \$5 (Saturday only) and \$10 for both days. Saturday night we will have our meal at the Central Highlands Lodge.

**Casting Competition:** A plan on the location of the targets is attached to this newsletter. Most of the casting can be practised on grass. Please contact Trent if you are interested in the competition. We need to know numbers.

### **New Newsletter Email:**

Articles to be sent to: [dffc.newsletter@internode.on.net](mailto:dffc.newsletter@internode.on.net)

# Beyond Mackenzie (Day 3 and 4)

By  
Daniel Bowden

## Day 3 Upper Julians over to Field - caught some, missed some

Day 3 arrived much like the last sunny with light winds. We proceeded toward lake Field, fishing along the way. Not far from our camp we found a tarn with a nice fish swimming about not knowing of our presence. I cast out my snowshoe emerger. The fish swam back and forward past the fly 3 times over about 2 minutes. Finally on the 3<sup>rd</sup> pass it took the fly for me to miss it on the strike-again.

We headed off to the top of Julians lake. I arrived at the lake spotted a fish and cast to it and this one rose straight at me and in typical fashion I missed the fish on the strike!

Here we dumped the packs and fished either side of the northern Julians. I tried John's trick of 'hot spotting'-putting the fly where I thought a fish should be. A few fish came up from the depths and inspected the fly and finally one took. I got the strike timed well on this one and it was duly landed.

Another fish was sighted later in the day as it rose and an exploratory cast was made and up he came- another for the tally. I spied another fish in a shallow bay which refused the dun pattern but kept cruising up along to my flyline which soon saw it fleeing. Not more than 5 minutes later another fish sighted, out went the same fly, and it was taken without hesitation.

There was a number of fish sighted about in the Julians but most of the water was deep with a few small shallow bays. Neither of us really liked the lake as it was arduous to get around and better polarionding was to be found in the tarns to the north. It didn't help that both of us had a fall whilst getting around the shore of the lake.

John finished with one and like me missed a couple for the day. We met up again where we had left our packs and walked out to lake Field about 1km to the north east. It took a while to find suitable tent site here but we

managed to find somewhere to pitch out of the wind. It was late by the time we arrived at lake Field and the sun was well down so we gave it a bit of a cast with wet flies just on dark before tea. It produced nothing for our efforts but was a lake worthy of further exploration on another trip.

#### Day 4 Bar lakes and home - fatties and skinnies

The weather again was a carbon copy of the last two days. Thankfully we had a high pressure system hang over us for the majority of the trip making for plenty of sun and warm northerlies. We pulled up camp at lake



Field and headed for the Bar lakes full of anticipation of what lay ahead. We were not to be disappointed.

We saw fish instantly. I covered the first fish at least 4 times with a Red tag. I could see by its position in the water it had its head down and tail up and it simply could not see the fly. John came over and sunk his Shaving brush a little and lead the fish by some distance and finally it saw his offerings. The fight did not last long and a poor condition fish was released.

Without going into minute details of each capture we fished the Bar lakes for 9 fish between us. They were the 'easiest' fish we had encountered for the trip. The polaroiding here was sublime and the fish willing to rise to

This had been one of the most enjoyable back lakes trips either of us have had.

The fishing was generally tough and to experience success every opportunity had to be capitalised on. We captured some good photos and videos of the trip and we worked and walked hard for every fish grassed. We were able to navigate just off features on maps, although we had a GPS and compass in case they were required. The landscape was stark, trackless and continuous but easily traversed. We fished quite a number of lakes but we also left plenty more behind as there was always another lake over the next ridge.

Once south of Halkyard we saw very little evidence of other people and we saw no other people on the trip. Most lakes had foot prints where they could be seen but it was obvious that they do not receive the same level of visitation as the more accessible Nineteen Lagoons or Blue Peaks. I think this will be one trip we will have to try to make an annual expedition.

I would encouraged anyone to get out there and see what our World renowned wilderness sight fishery is based upon. I'm sure you will not be disappointed.

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## **First Aid & Bronte Camp 2011:**

We are looking for 2 volunteers who are going to attend the upcoming camp and who are interested in becoming trained first aiders. The Club will pay for the training. Please contact Trent.

Barry Jacobson has recently completed thea course and reports that it is not a difficult course; competent instructors make sure you understand each section before moving on to a new section. You are assessed on your ability to perform CPR (after instruction and practice) and then there is a short, multiple-choice test at the end.

# DEVONPORT FLY FISHING CLUB INC.

## Minutes of General Meeting held on 29/04/2010

The meeting was preceded by our guest speaker Jan Spencer who gave a presentation.

The meeting was opened by President Reid who welcomed members and guests.

**ATTENDANCE:** 40

**MEETING OPEN:** 8:45pm

**APOLOGIES:** P. McCrone, R. Stagg, J. Weltsch, H. Weltsch, M. Murray, T. Scott, C. Kuns, D. Urquhart, N. Parker, J. Copp.

Moved M. French Sec P. Gardner that the apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Moved M. French Sec C. Morley that the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated was a true and accurate record. **Carried.**

**BUSINESS ARISING:** Held over until later in the meeting.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Moved D. Best sec M. Hulsman that the treasurer's report be accepted and accounts passed for payment. **Carried.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS:**

1. AAT - 13 x E-mails
2. The Tasmanian Trout Expo - 1 x Letter

### **CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS:**

NWFFC - 1 x E-mail

T. Rigby moved that the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards correspondence be confirmed. Seconded: G. Bourke. **Carried.**

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

Held over to general business.

## **REPORTS:**

### **SHACK:**

Moved P. Burr sec P. Bonney that the recommendations proposed by the shack committee be adopted as rules to the use of Devon Lodge. **Carried.**

Recommendations put were

- That use of the lodge be restricted to members and one guest.
- The lodge NOT be made available on a commercial basis.
- The club can invite by invitation for special events other fishing club members but the numbers be restricted to the availability of beds and toilet/shower considerations.

P. Burr is calling for interested shack committee volunteers.

### **CAMP COMMITTEE:**

- P. Burr is calling for both camp leader and camp secretary.
- P. Burr is calling for volunteers to help out on the table at the Liawenee weekend.
- The camp committee made a recommendation that three members be trained in first aid.  
**Moved** P. Burr sec G. Bourke that three members be trained in first aid at the clubs expense. **Carried.**
- The camp committee are investigating options for the purchasing and hiring of first aid equipment for future camps.

**FISHING:** R. McLachlan, D. Best, R. Wybrow, P. Gardner, A. Mcpher-son, N. Day and A. Maney all gave reports on recent fishing trips.

**FLY TYING:** D. Best reported on the fly tying night that was held earlier this month and the next fly tying night to be held in May. D. Best advised that a fly tying weekend with Jan Spencer will be held at the Devon Lodge on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June. Normal lodge booking procedures apply.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

It was noted that the Devonport Anglers Club are holding a MAST

Presentation at their next meeting. All DFFC members are invited to attend at the Axeman's Hall of Fame on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

G. Bourke reported on some information that was obtained regarding the Australian Salmon along our coastal waters.

Volunteers were called to assist with the table at the Liawenee weekend. A brief discussion was held in regards to the Tasmanian Trout Expo and fly casting competition to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010.

R. McLachlan presented a "Keeping It Clean" Tasmanian field hygiene manual. Further information can be found at [www.nrmsouth.org.au](http://www.nrmsouth.org.au)

C. Kuns has planned an Exmouth Bone fishing trip. If anyone is interested, phone Craig on 0412614652.

Moved A. Maney sec S. Laskey that the club purchase a new 42" television, external antenna with brackets and an antenna amplifier if required. Carried.

It was resolved that the camp committee look at some alternatives for member-to-member public liability insurance. To be discussed next meeting.

It was resolved that M. French book accommodation for another Lake Burbury trip around February next year.

TRIPS: NIL

**MEETING CLOSED: 09:40 pm**

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## Jan Spencer

Jan took us on a trip to different places of the world. She talked about fishing for grayling, russian trout and pike in Finland, for trout in England, and for salmon in Scotland. Good spots for saltwater fishing are Darwin, Cape York (good fun is targeting tuna with a popper fly) and New Britain (PNG). Target fish in new Britain were black bass and spot tail bass, which are very hard fighting fish.

After having fished so many different places, her favourite spots to fish are still the headwaters of the Tasmanian rivers and the Western lakes.

Jan talked also about her experience as a participant and as a fly tier at the fly fishing world championships.

It was a very informative evening.

Jan will be the guest tier at our fly tying weekend in June.

# Julian Brown



6 members from Devonport made it to attend the talk of Julian Brown in Burnie. Julian talked about places, characters and situations he experienced during his time as a fly fisher.

In the 60's he developed a fly that was supposed to match the Bogong moth. When he introduced the fly to his mate, the reply was: "That's not a fly, that's a dunny brush." This reply solved the problem of finding a name for the fly. Julian gave us a tying demonstration using a No. 6 (six) hook. The fly is very bulky and best fished from an hour before dark. This fly is easily dried with a few false casts and floats really well and a long time. Detailed tying instructions will be in a later edition, when I get a photo of a more decent version.



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## 1<sup>st</sup> Fly Tying session in 2010



12 members attended the first fly tying night in April. It was great to watch how experienced members helped the novices.



Stan taught the group to tie a nymph which is the base of a lot of different flies.



For our session in May (13/05/2010) participants need to bring: Size 12 hooks for nymphs, brown dubbing, copper wire, brown or black thread, a turkey tail or wing feather and hackle feathers.

Stan will demonstrate how to convert a nymph into an emerger or a dry fly.



# Fly tying



## Nymph By Stan Laskey

Hook: Size 12  
Thread: Danvilles Fly  
Master 6/0  
Tail: Rooster fibre  
Rib: Thin copper wire  
Body: Brown dubbing  
Wing case: Turkey feather



1. Tie in thread behind hook eye and wrap the hook with thread down to the bend. Tie in the tail (Length about  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the hook shank)
2. Tie in ribbing wire.
3. Dub the body about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the shank.
4. Wind the ribbing wire towards the eye of the hook. Tie it off and trim.
5. Tie in wing case and continue dubbing the rest of the shank. Remember to stop a few millimetres from the eye.
6. Pull wing case towards the eye and tie off.
7. Build up a head and whip finish.

# New Zealand Fishing Trip February 2010

## (Part 1: Excuses 1-5)

by Norm Day

This was our third trip, with only 4 participants. We again had a great trip, but the fishing was not as good as previous trips, but of course, we had our excuses.

The first days fishing was in Lake Rotorua. We located a stream which was fed by springs and was only 1 kilometre long, but had a good flow of water. We walked the length of the stream and saw a few big fish, but fishing was not allowed in the river. We joined a picket line of fishers where the stream entered the lake. It was certainly a different type of fishing, a dozen fishers standing out in the lake all just out of casting distance of each other, crystal clear water, casting in amongst all those fishers expecting a fish to take. A couple of the locals knew how to fish the area as they caught good size rainbows with monotonous regularity, right next to us, while we flogged the water with increasing frustration. Eventually Anthony's frustration got the better of him and he waded up to a successful fisherman to find out his secret. He was using a Smelt fly, which none of us had.

**Excuse 1:** not the right fly.

The cabin we stayed in was on the edge of the lake next to an inflowing stream, therefore, after dinner we waded out to fish the shallows until dark. Just on dark Jim landed a rainbow between 3 & 4 lb. Not long after, in pitch black, Anthony fought a big fish. He yelled to us that it was a monster, but as we could not see him we thought he was exaggerating. It was a brown which weighed just under 8 lb.

**No excuse needed,** not by Anthony anyway.

We then moved on to our old stomping ground, the Murapara area and the Rangitaiki River. Here our fishing was very restricted, as the forestry company have severely restricted access into the area (they own all the roads). Also, after 2 weeks of rain prior to our arrival, the rivers were

running strongly making them impossible to wade.

**Excuse 2:** limited access. **Excuse 3:** rivers too full.

We caught a few fish, but not up to our expectations. I did get a rainbow of 3 to 4 lb to take my dry in the Whirinaki River, but after a spectacular fight it effected a long distance release. My usual form with big fish in these fast flowing waters.

We again fished Lake Aniwhenua from the small unstable dingys, on a calm day with a few fish rising, but in contrast to the previous trip, despite casting to a number of fish, we ended with a blank day.

**Excuse 4:** too calm

We then ventured further afield to Lake Waikeramoana where Athol assured us that we would find huge fish cruising along the shore. It is a beautiful large lake set down in a spectacular setting. However, the heavy rain prior to our arrival had raised the lake level by 4 feet in 2 weeks which resulted in the lake spilling for the first time in a few years. As a result the lake extended into the scrub along the shoreline making it impossible to fish without a boat, and the small section we did fish had dirty water out from the shore (caused by the wind & boat wash on the newly covered dirt shores) making it impossible to see any cruisers (if there were any). However, fishing blind, Jim had a fish hit his fly so hard it broke his rod. He was so concerned about his broken rod that he did not even try and land the fish! (What do you think about that Peter Bonney!)

**Excuse 5:** too much water.

*To be continued....*

# First Cockeys

by Greg Lowe

Just to let the DFFC crew share in the fulfilment of a personal dream - the catching of my first cockey salmon on the fly-rod (with a debarbed hook to boot). Great sport, I can assure you, tremendous fighters those little fellas - thought the first one might have been a bream the way he badly bent the rod. Played the second one for all he was worth to maximise the enjoyment of a tough nugget at the business end of the line - he flipped out of the water four times - musta bin tryin' to emulate a rainbow trout.



(This couple conveniently committed suicide on a mottley smelt pattern off the old Bowen Bridge site)

Now, where's the tuna.....

*Note from the editor:*

*Congratulations Greg. Peter Morse caught this tuna about 2 boat hours south of where you caught your fish. He is claiming a world record on the gear he used.*

*More Info on: <http://connell.com.au/?cat=6>*



# Casting Competition

Ring layout and information on the Skish event:

