

**DEVONPORT  
FLY FISHING CLUB INC.**

**NEWSLETTER**



**VOLUME 17 No 1**

**January 2010**

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

**Club Postal Address Club Inc.**

Devonport Fly Fishing Club Inc.  
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Please send articles to either of the  
following:

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**Stephan Muther**  
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Devonport TAS 7310

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**BRONTE CAMP STARTS 9th January 2011 (To Be Confirmed)**

***Office Bearers 2009– 2010***

<b><i>Patron</i></b>	<i>Ashley Artis</i>		
<b><i>President</i></b>	<i>Reid McLachlan</i>		6496 1768
<b><i>Senior Vice President</i></b>	<i>Athol McPherson</i>		64270568
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<b><i>Secretary</i></b>	<i>Trent Rigby</i>		0439 155 305
<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	<i>David Best</i>		6424 6628
<b><i>Security Officer</i></b>	<i>David Best</i>		6424 6628
<b><i>Librarian</i></b>	<i>Malcolm Murray</i>	0408 130 092	64284071
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<b><i>Booking Officer</i></b>	<i>Barry Jacobson</i>	0409 947 185	6272 2597
<b><i>Bronte Camp Contact</i></b>	<i>Martin Hulsman</i>	6424 3648	
<b><i>Life Members</i></b>	<i>Mr. George Surman</i>		
	<i>Mr. Peter Burr</i>		

**OUR NEXT MEETING DATE IS: February 25, 2010**

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

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2010

February 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> Fishing trip to Lake Burbury

February 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Fishing trip Talbots Lagoon

February 25<sup>th</sup> General Meeting-Devonport Library 7.30  
pm

February 27<sup>th</sup> Fishing trip to St. Helens

October 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Cressy Trout Expo

## FISHING TRIPS

Graeme Bourke intends to once again have the trip to St. Helens on February 27-28<sup>th</sup>. If you need accommodation, contact Percy on 64381393.

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I hope everybody had a good start into the new year. Participating at the Bronte Camp is an awesome start of the year. It was great like every year. You'll get a few impressions on the next page. On our last meeting it was decided that the printed version of the Newsletter will consist of 12 pages as a maximum. Meanwhile George had some more enquiries and gave me the thumb-up for 16 pages as a maximum. The email version is more interesting as the pictures are in colour. If you don't know how to use the Internet but always wanted to try it out, contact Reid McLachlan.

It was great to receive two articles from members. Liz and David Ward have participated in their second Bronte Camp in a row. Since six years they are Grey Nomads from Queensland. Read their unusual story on Page 11.

Jack Woods attended his first Bronte Camp four years ago at the age of 9. He hasn't missed a camp in between and this year at the age of 13 he did a very impressive demonstration on casting and tip control. Besides being a very talented fly fisher Jack is a talented writer as well.

I hope to get more articles in the future.

# BRONTE CAMP 2010

The 2010 Bronte Camp has been run, won and dun and many thank yous have to go out to the camp committee, camp leaders and instructors for another excellent event held by the club. Every year we say that it is getting better and bigger and this year is no exception. With 31 new students and 23 returnees attending everyone had their hands full. The weather was trying at times with scorching temperatures early in the week followed by severe winds in the middle which caused the postponement of two classes until the following day. Everyone was very tolerant to the situation and for that we are very grateful. The syllabus was thrown into some disorder however all classes were catered for with only one fishing session being held over.

It is pleasing to report that Max French is well on the way to recovery after being transferred to Tarraleah by ambulance and then by air ambulance to the Royal Hobart Hospital with a suspected blood clot in the lung. Max is now at home on light duties for 6 months (no fishing either !!) so we wish you well on your road to recovery, Max.

The raffle was another success and Thursday nights draw was again a highlight with David and Athol keeping everything rolling along with great work. Everyone who donated prizes can take a bow and are acknowledged on page 6 in the newsletter. Please support the businesses that have been listed as donating items.

Some stats from the camp:

Men	82
Ladies	25
Girls u/16	5
Boys u/d 16	13
All up	125
4 Dogs	
7700 Lts water	delivered

Thanks to Rex Bramich and 2nd year apprentices Adam & Luke Morgan for assisting in the toilet & water duties

Also many thanks to the people who towed the toilets to and from the camp. A big thank you to Reid McLachlan for making 2 trips towing the trailer.

A debrief session will be held later in March and plans put in place for next years camp.

## Trout Expo at Cressy

At our last meeting Roy Wybrow suggested that the Devonport Fly Fishing Club should participate in this year's Tasmanian Casting Championships which are held during the Trout Expo. The team event consists of teams of three. It is not about distance casting. The event is about accuracy in your casting. Roy reckons that we can win that competition. We can register as many teams as we get together. Roy offered to have a training session in March. Contact Trent Rigby (paradymesolutions@live.com.au or 0439 155 305) if you are interested to participate and don't be too shy.

## Fishing trip to Talbots Lagoon

The Club received an invitation from the North West Fly Fishing Club for a fishing weekend at Talbots Lagoon. It will be from the 19th to 21st February.

Members who like to go should contact Trent Rigby ASAP. Trent needs the vehicle registration number. Accommodation is 15 dollars a night. Participants need to bring their own food, drinks, sleeping bag and pillow. Pots, cutlery and plates are at the shack. The Saturday will be a fishing competition from dawn to dusk.

# CAMP DONORS 2010

(please contact the editor if you were missed out of this list)

Erich, Ali and Alexandra Sinkis (VIC)

Central Highlands Lodge

Don Wishart

Peter O'Donnell (VIC)

David Best

Graeme Bourke

Colin Morley

Warren Deane

Peter Bonney

Athol McPherson

Wayne Bellette

Spot-On Hobart

Ashley Artis

Geoff Gillard

Warnes Boys (ACT)

John Laurie

Max Davis

Rex Bramich

Greg Lowe and Rosemary Dash

Neil Button

Dianne Burr

Tony and Patsy Jeffrey

John Bonney

Justin and Max Rigby

Bronte Park General Store

Anthony Maney

Noel Walker

Barry Jacobson

# Minutes of General Meeting held on 28/01/2010

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

**ATTENDANCE:** 42

**MEETING OPEN:** 7:35pm

**APOLOGIES:** D. Thomas, J. Rigby, C. Kuns.  
Moved J. Kirkpatrick Sec C. Morley that the apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Moved J. Kirkpatrick Sec P. Burr that the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated was a true and accurate record. **Carried.**

**BUSINESS ARISING:** Held over to later in the meeting

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS:**

- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| NWFFC                  | - 2 x E-mails  |
| • NWFFC                | - 1 x Letter   |
| • DPIPWE               | - 1 x Letter   |
| • AAT                  | - 13 x E-mails |
| • Tasmanian Trout Expo | - 1 x Letter   |

## **CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS:**

- K. Shadbolt - 1 x Letter
- G. Winspear - 1 x Letter
- M. French - 1 x Card
- C. Rist - 1 x Letter

T. Rigby moved that the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards correspondence be confirmed.

Seconded: T. Scott.

**Carried.**

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

Held over to general business

## **REPORTS:**

### **SHACK:**

P. Burr reported on the previous working bee held in December. The last working bee was very productive with many tasks completed.

### **CAMP COMMITTEE:**

P. Burr spoke briefly on the success of our recent Bronte camp. P. Burr thanked B. Jacobson, the camp committee, all instructors and other helpers on their efforts. D. Best commended the efforts of P. Burr for his role as camp leader.

### **FISHING:**

R. Stagg reported on the recent club trip to L. Huntsman. No fish caught but an enjoyable night was had. R. Mclachlan, R. Stagg, D. Best, P. Burr, G. Bourke, P. Gardner, N. Parker, R. Wybrow, G. Leary and N. Day all gave reports on fishing trips over the past two months.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- It was resolved that the club shack operations be discussed at our February general meeting.
- It was resolved that G. Bourke attempts to obtain the previously used template for club member survey forms.
- D. Best reported on the trout stocking of the club dams that took place on 02-12-2009.
- It was resolved that club members assess the progress of the trout in the club dams in due course.
- It was noted that A. Taylor has fallen ill. It was resolved that a get well card be sent.
- G. Leary moved a motion that our club dams be restricted to the use of barbless hooks only. Sec T. Scott. Carried Unanimously.
- R. Mclachlan advised club members that T. Cartlidge has passed away. It was resolved that a condolence card be sent to family.
- It was resolved that due to newsletter sizing issues, all standard content will be published in the hard copy format and other articles, stories etc will be published within the electronic version.

## **TRIPS:**

- Lake Burbury 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February
- Talbots Lagoon 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February
- St Helens 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Graeme Bourke Ph. 0364255397 Mob. 0458248572  
Graeme can be contacted on the above numbers as he plans to arrive Mon or Tues.

**PRESENTATION:** R. Wybrow demonstrated the use of a fly casting development tool. The casting tool can be purchased through the club.

**MEETING CLOSED: 10:00 pm**

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## Some Rules

The following rules were sent to me by Roy Wybrow. They might be of interest to members.

**RULE OF ELEVENS:** Subtraction of the X leader number from 11 to come up with the leader diameter in thousandths. (Example: 4X leader =  $11-4=7=.007$  " dia.)

**RULE OF 3's (or 4's):** Division of the numerical fly hook size by either 3 or 4 to come up with the X number for the leader. (Example: # 12 hook.  $12$  divided by  $3=4=4X$  tippet)

**RULE OF "30":** Method of coming up with the approximate grain weight of the first 30' of a fly line by multiplying the fly line rating number ("size") by 30. (A very rough approximation for mid range fly lines.)

**RULE OF "9's":** Rough calculation of the lb. test of a fly leader/tippet by subtracting the X number from 9. (Much less accurate in recent times because of wide variation in tippet material diameter/strength ratios.)

**RULE OF 90 degrees:** When fighting a fish the most effective angle to pressure a fish is 90 degrees from the butt of the rod to the fish. This reduces as we increase the angle (Lean the rod back) and as we reduce this angle (point the rod tip at the fish) No longer have the shock absorber of the rod to save the tippet.

**RULE OF 180 degrees:** This the Casting position of the loops from each other on the forward and backward plane, with the rod tip on this chord.

# DEVON LODGE

We would appreciate if people who are staying at the Lodge could donate 30 minutes per day for stacking the pile of firewood. At present the big pile prevents us from getting a few truckloads of gravel as close as possible to the back of the lodge. The pipes at the back of the lodge, which are still exposed, have to be covered with gravel.



Peter Watson, Barry Jacobson, Nathan Bishop and Peter Gaggin started already by filling up the wood shed. Some of the logs needs to be split and stacked on the LHS side of the wood shed. The tools are in the wood shed.

The wood on the big pile can now also be used to fill up the firewood box in the lodge (as long as they are not wet from recent rain). Place all the longer pieces which won't fit into the heater beside the right hand woodpile. Thanks a lot.

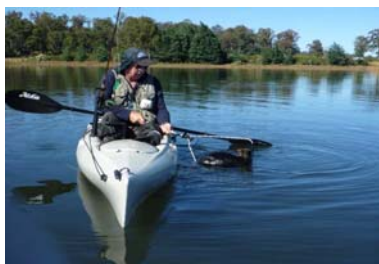
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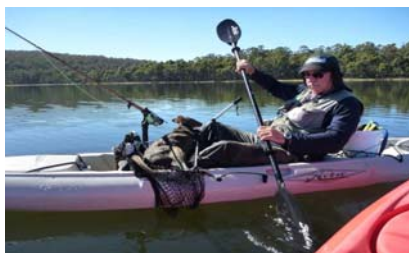
# A Good Catch at the Bronte Camp

'It's a platypus.....No it's a duck.....No it's an animal' There was some confusion on the bank of Bronte lagoon on the first day of the January Camp as 'something' was moving around in the middle of the lake. Liz and I launched our kayaks and as we got closer it was clear that it was a small



wallaby and that it was on its last legs. Not wishing to get bitten or scratched from a very unhappy and panicked creature in the confines of my kayak, I readied my landing net and managed to scoop it up with only mild hissing noises from my new passenger.

Once on board it settled on my lap and I thought it was dying as its eyes closed and head slumped. As I stroked it, it responded favourably and settled against me for the paddle back to dry land.



As its soaked fur dried out, it was



looking sorry for itself but was very friendly and made no attempt to hop it. After a few minutes under watchful eyes, we placed it in a quiet spot in the long grass. On checking an hour later, it was gone and as there was no more splashing in the lake we assume that it was safe and happy for its experience.

PS For the record the landing net was used for its intended purpose, later in the excellent course.

David Ward Grey Nomad from Qld

# Fly tying

As promised at the Camp this month's fly is the 'Mighty Duck Fly'. It is based on the Irish Dabbling which is a very old but still effective pattern. The Duck Fly is designed to be a dry fly but also works well as a wet fly. It can be fished at lakes and rivers.

Unfortunately flank feathers of Mountain Ducks are not for sale. To obtain them you have to shoot a duck. To shoot a duck in Tasmania you need a hunting license and you must have passed a Waterfowl Identification Test.

## Duck fly (Irish Dabbling Style)

By Trevor Berne

Hook: Kamasan 840 Size 14  
Thread: Danvilles Fly Master 6/0 Olive  
Tail: Claret cock feather  
Body: Rabbit fur tips  
Wing: Male Mountain Duck



- Tie in thread behind hook eye and wrap the hook with thread down to the base of the hook. Tie in the tail. Length: About the length of the hook.
- Dub a slightly tapered body about 2/3 of the hook shank.
- Build up a pad on the remaining 1/3 of the hook shank by winding the thread several times backward and forward.
- Cut 3 - 4 slips from either side of the duck feather about 9 mm wide. Stack them on top of each other.
- Hold the slips to the side of the hook with the base level with the hook shank. The points should align at about half the length of the tail or slightly longer.
- Keep the thread firm while rolling the feather around the hook.
- Tie off and trim the feather.
- Build up a small head and whip finish.

# Stocking of the Club dams

In early December the three Club Dams have been stocked with a total of about 850 Rainbow trout. It was a very stressful event for everybody involved, especially the trout.

It started off with the IFS-team waiting at the wrong roundabout in Latrobe . The fish in the tank don't like the change of movement of the water. It is best to keep the vehicle moving from the start of the trip to the location where the fish are released. Luckily our fish didn't mind that changes.



*Arrival at Peter's dam*

The next important step is to find a spot where there is no weed in the water. The fish are used to have contact only to the smooth tank wall and other fish.



**Peter & David spotted a gap in the weed**

As soon as they feel the fluffy weed straight after release most of them play dead and some even die. As the only accessible spots at Peter's dam involved some weeds, the fish had to be stocked with a net. We lost only a few and meanwhile they are doing well.

Where there is access to a weed free spot the stocking can be done much easier as shown in the next picture. Reid reported that the fish in his dam seemed to have

adapted well and have found out that there is some yummy stuff (much better than pellets) floating around.



I didn't mention any locations of our three club dams as we had trouble with poachers in the past. Whenever we plan to do a fishing event in one of them interested members will get advice on the locations.

## FISHING REPORT

By Jack Woods

The day after the Bronte fly fishing camp my brother (Harry Woods) and I decided to look around for a spinner hatch or something. We stopped at Pine Tier and saw nothing so we went to a different lake\* and there were fish jumping clean out of the water with a few swirls here and there. It was a hot and windy day so I tried a hopper pattern and Harry went with a red tag. It was about one minute into the fishing when Harry yelled out 'I'm on!!!!!!' I ran over to help him



land it but about 7 seconds into the fight the fish jumped and spat the hook then after 2 seconds of shock and disappointment another fish or the same one slammed the red tag AGAIN and spat the hook shortly into the fight (That's two lost fish in ten seconds). I have never seen the fish feed so aggressive. As I was walking back to get my fly rod Harry yelled out "I'm on again!!!!!!!" this time Harry hooked the fish properly and landed a one pounder. Harry ended up catching two more fish that day. I caught two fish that day on a red tag they all weighed one pound I released one of mine because we thought 4 fish was enough. It was one of my most memorable fish experiences. Sadly our 4 brownies over heated in the car and were inedible, we learnt our lesson the hard way.

*\*Originally Jack mentioned the name of the lake. I got his permission to edit this part as we want to reserve this relatively unknown water for junior participants of the Camp , who like to catch their first fish. Thanks Jack.*