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THE VICTORIAN FLY-FISHERS' ASSOCIATION INC.
Organisation No. A0024750J
C/- The Kelvin Club, Melbourne Place, Melbourne 3000

JUNE 2008

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**NEXT MEETING – GUEST SPEAKER IS DANIEL HACKETT,
AT THE KELVIN CLUB, 8.00PM THURSDAY 19 JUNE 2008**

ASSOCIATED CLUBS: ALPINE (BRIGHT) • WANGARATTA • BAIRNSDALE • WARRNAMBOOL • LATROBE VALLEY

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Guest Speaker – Daniel Hackett

Daniel is one of the new generation of fly fishers, and though only 28 years old, has been a full-time Tasmanian fly fishing guide for six seasons. With his wife Simone, Daniel ran RiverFly Lodge on the North Esk River for two seasons, and is soon to announce his involvement with a new Tasmanian lodge. He has been a Tasmanian casting champion, as well as runner up twice, but isn't particularly interested in competitive fly fishing or casting; his real angling passions are wilderness fly fishing and sight fishing. Daniel's RiverFly Tasmania business offers river-based fly fishing (both wading and rafting) among Tasmania's northern rivers, as well as fishing on some lesser known wilderness river fisheries.

RiverFly is offering Western Lakes and river-based campout trips in the coming season. His favourite rod is a Sage XP 586-4, but he recently put the wood to a double figure Tasmanian fish with a cane rod - an 'Elizabeth', built by Peter McKean.

Daniel is a co-author of the coffee-table book *In Season Tasmania - A Year of Fly Fishing Highlights*. This is a superb book, and it will be a delight to meet the author. His talk will include a PowerPoint presentation on aspects of Tasmanian angling, along with a display of flies he uses. Our evening with Daniel promises to be something special – a highlight not to be missed.

THE MAY AUCTION

Would a sale of old books be of interest to members of the VFFA? It would seem so. The May auction of David Scholes' personal library drew a great deal of interest, with nearly 70 VFFA members, Joseland Society members and invited guests gathering at the Kelvin Club to examine the collection and place their bids. Auctioneer Marty Rogers was in scintillating form, and his dry wit and vigorous auctioneering style provided diverting entertainment as he despatched the 84 lots. The bidding was fierce, too, with some of the great angling classics in David's personal library selling for steep prices.

David's magnificent water colour of Tasmania's Elizabeth River and Bridge sold for \$2,000, and his personal copy of Wigram's 'Trout and Fly in Tasmania' (1938 edition) was knocked down for \$1,800. Wigram's 'The Shannon Rise' sold for \$800, despite the fact that the original price shown on the dust cover was four shillings and ninepence! One of the few books auctioned that was actually written by David Scholes – *Tasmanian Angler* (by Scholes and Robson), sold for \$600.

As is often the case at auctions, there were some stunning surprises. Jim Allen was heard making some rather bemused comments in the bar at the end of the evening, as he reflected on the bidding for Scholes' copy of Max Stokes's *Tasmanian Trout Fly Patterns*. This small booklet of some 52 pages, which most members would own and would have purchased for a few dollars, sold for \$1,050. It would seem that owning a book that was once in the personal library of Australia's pre-eminent angling writer had a very special attraction. A full list of all items auctioned, along with their prices, is given in this newsletter.

A number of members are to be thanked for the success of the evening - Tony Brothers and his team of helpers, for their time and effort in setting up the display of items for the auction; Andrew Braithwaite, VFFA member living in Launceston, who put in much of the early work in collating the collection; Tony Mitchem, who worked hard throughout the evening entering records of sales into his laptop; and of course our auctioneer – Marty Rogers. To all of these members, our sincere thanks.



1932 - 2008

VICTORIAN FLY-FISHERS' ASSOCIATION 76TH ANNUAL DINNER

The President and Council of the VFFA
cordially invite you to join us
for our annual dinner.

DATE: Friday the 29th of August 2008

TIME: 6.30 for 7PM

VENUE: The Kelvin Club
Melbourne Place
Melbourne 3000

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
Mr. Bob Hart

COST: \$50.00 per person
(plus drinks)

RSVP – Wednesday 20th of August 2008
Honorary Treasurer – Mr. Tony Mitchem
PO Box 7424
St Kilda Road Vic 8004
9832 8405 or 0407 309 797



President's Message

Cane Day, Cane Day, Cane Day!

I am currently spending a lot of time organizing Cane Day. We have cane rod builders from all around Australia making a beeline to Yarra Bend Park and the Red Tag Casting Pool. Melways Reference: 2D H2. Please come along and support your VFFA. Bring a mate, bring a rod, come and compare old and new. Be amazed at how good a new generation cane rod feels under your control. 9.00 am onwards. Barbecue lunch provided.

If you have never been on Dick Goodall's Bullen Merri weekend you have missed out on a great weekend. Make sure you don't miss out this year. Please contact Dick at 9888 9514.

Young Daniel Hackett is our guest speaker this month. Several members have used Daniel for his guiding expertise whilst in Tassie. Come along for dinner and catch up with one of Tasmania's most impressive fly fishing guides and authors.

The David Scholes' book auction was the highlight of last month. 65 VFFA and Joseland members and their guests attended a very entertaining evening and hopefully left with a book once owned and loved by David Scholes. I know I did. Thank you to everybody who helped make the night such a very memorable event. Our special thanks to Andrew Braithwaite, Tony Mitchem, Tony Brothers and Marty "the smarty" Rogers.

Last week Colin Morrison, Rick Dugina and yours truly attended the North-East Stream Classification meeting. I must say I was very impressed with the amount of work that has gone into the Stream Classification Model. The VFFA wants all members to take the time to comment on the draft model. If you want your say, please go to www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing, or contact Rick Dugina (phone 9370 9328) who is putting in submissions on behalf of VFFA members.

The rivers concerned in the North-East Fisheries Plan are the Mitta Mitta River, King River, Ovens River, Buffalo River and Kiewa River. The draft model will be initially tested against these rivers as examples.

Over the next four months 20,000 trout will be stocked into Eildon Pondage. This will ensure a magnificent winter fishery for all trout anglers. A special thank you must go to Travis Dowling, Manager Inland Fisheries.

Congratulations to Geoff Hall, who is now the new President of the Australian Trout Foundation. We all wish Geoff the very best with all his endeavors. The management and preservation of our trout fishery is a massive job. If you are not a member of the Australian Trout Foundation, please join and show your support for trout in Australia.

Senior Vice-President Peter Boag is on the mend after his recent hernia operation. There is no truth in the rumor that Peter got his hernia from picking up his wallet.

The VFFA Art Show is going ahead. Please come along and support angling art in Australia. Congratulations must go to Paul Squires for all his hard work!

Plans are well and truly under way for this year's Annual Dinner. Please come along and join your fly fishing mates, or book a table and be thoroughly entertained by our guest speaker, Mr Bob Hart.

Sunday casting has started again. For a pleasant Sunday morning's entertainment and one of Nancy's gorgeous cookies, come along and let the Master Caster iron the kinks out of many years of bad habits (as well as your casting). Red Tag Casting Pool, Yarra Bend Park. Sundays 9.00am till 12 noon.

Sleeping we image what awake we wish:
Dogs dream of bones, and fly fisherman of fish.
(Excerpt from *Halcyon Days*)

David Grisold



WINTER CASTING

Has Now Started

Please come and share a coffee and one of Nancy's famous cookies with the Master Caster.

Some people come from Tasmania!

Newer members should take this opportunity to meet other members and to improve their casting techniques. It also provides a chance to try other members' gear.

Be at the Red Tag Pool,
Fairfield

SUNDAYS
BETWEEN
9AM AND 12 NOON

VFFA Meetings & Activities

JUNE

- 1 Sunday Casting
- 5 Dinner with Partners
- 8 Sunday Casting
- 15 Cane Day
- 19 **General Meeting**
– Speaker Daniel Hackett
- 20-21 Bullen Merri Weekend
- 22 Sunday Casting
- 29 Sunday Casting

JULY

- 6 Sunday Casting
- 13 Sunday Casting
- 17 **General Meeting** – Fly Tying
- 20 Sunday Casting
- 25-27 Art Show
- 27 Sunday Casting

AUGUST

- 3 Sunday Casting
- 10 Sunday Casting
- 17 Sunday Casting
- 24 Sunday Casting
- 29 **Annual Dinner** – Speaker Bob Hart
- 30 President's Casting Day

SEPTEMBER

- 18 **Annual General Meeting**

OCTOBER

- 16 **General Meeting**
- TBA Opening Weekend

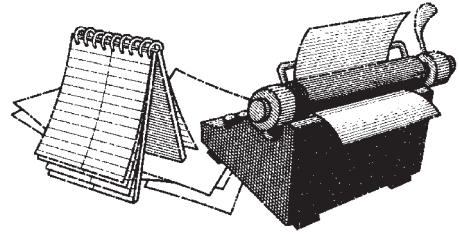
NOVEMBER

- 20 **General Meeting**
- TBA Fishing Trip – Big River

DECEMBER

- 18 Christmas Dinner

From the EDITOR'S DESK



As May turns into June the big question is when will it rain. The long term reduction in rainfall is seriously affecting the Victorian trout fishery. The water levels of many of our freshwater impoundments which once offered reasonable trout fishing are at or near all time lows. Streams which once fished well through to mid summer are now out of condition due to low water by mid spring.

I guess that all we can do is pray for rain. Perhaps we should also pray for a government that faces up to the reality of what is happening to our climate rather than putting its head into the sand like an ostrich. According to the Sunday Age of June 1, the State government has stood by its estimated water savings from the north-south pipe line. The Sunday Age was told by the government that it “*was reasonable to expect the drought to break and water savings to be calculated on the past 100 years of average rainfall*”. With this sort of “ostrichian” denial I am very happy that we have water tanks and dam water for the garden.

On a brighter note I am readying myself for a trip to the San River in eastern Poland in August and September. The San rises in the Bieszczady mountains near the border with the Ukraine and Slovenia and if water levels are a problem, it will be because they are too high. The San is reputed to offer the best wild trout and grayling fishing in Europe. Hatches can be prolific and it is said to be possible to land fifty or more fish during what the locals call a “blizzard hatch”. There is also a resident population of Huchen (known as Taimen in Mongolia). These very aggressive fish can reach a length of four feet. It is not unknown for one of these monsters to take a trout or grayling whilst it is being played by an angler. There are also Chub, Dace and the extremely rare Nase, all of which will take a fly.

A large area through which the San flows is reserved in a national park. Wolves, the area’s European bison, lynxes, beavers, bears and otters are still found there. Whilst I don’t expect to be taken by a pack of wolves as I reel in yet another fish, I will not be taking my red riding hood with me.

I am always interested in the cuisine of whatever country I am visiting. Polish food is said to be very wholesome and tasty but is not recommended for those who are seeking to lose weight during their holiday. The beer is said to be superb and every bit as good as Czechoslovakian or Belgian beer but much cheaper. The national spirit is Polish or Ukrainian vodka which the chap organising my trip says “*tastes like rocket fuel*”. Wines are mainly Bulgarian in origin and are reputed to be on the rough side.

If I survive the perils of bears, wolves, Huchen, Bulgarian Reds and Ukrainian vodka and the even greater risk posed by Heathrow Airport, I will then spend four or five days staying at the charming village of Stockbridge in the County of Hampshire. There I will cast a line on the hallowed Test River and perhaps the Itchen. This will be a much more sedate and tranquil phrase of the trip but it will be interesting to fish these famous rivers after having read so much about them. At the very least I should have some good stories for the newsletter, however the trip pans out.

If you want to read about the wonderful San River there is an excellent website at www.fly.fish.pl which has been set by the people who have organised my trip.

BULLEN MERRI FISHING WEEKEND & DINNER

20 & 21 June 2008



Richard Goodall is again organizing two days fishing in the Camperdown area and a dinner at the property of Caroline and John Menzies.

The dinner will be prepared by their charming daughter Karenza.

The evening commences at 6.30pm for drinks, BYO (please bring your favourite).

Dress sports casual.

Please don't miss this wonderful weekend.

For all enquiries please contact:
Richard Goodall 9888 9514 or
Rick Dugina 0401 963 601

CANE DAY 2008



Unwrap a dear old friend
Or come along and sample the wares
Of Australia's finest cane rod builders

We have our annual Cane Day on Sunday 15 June. Australia's best cane rod builders will be there with their rods, and members will be able to cast with a cane rod and feel the action of these incredible casting tools. An opportunity not to be missed.

Venue:

The Red Tag Pool, Fairfield Yarra Bend. See Melway Map 2D H2 or contact David Grisold on 0419 558 462

When:

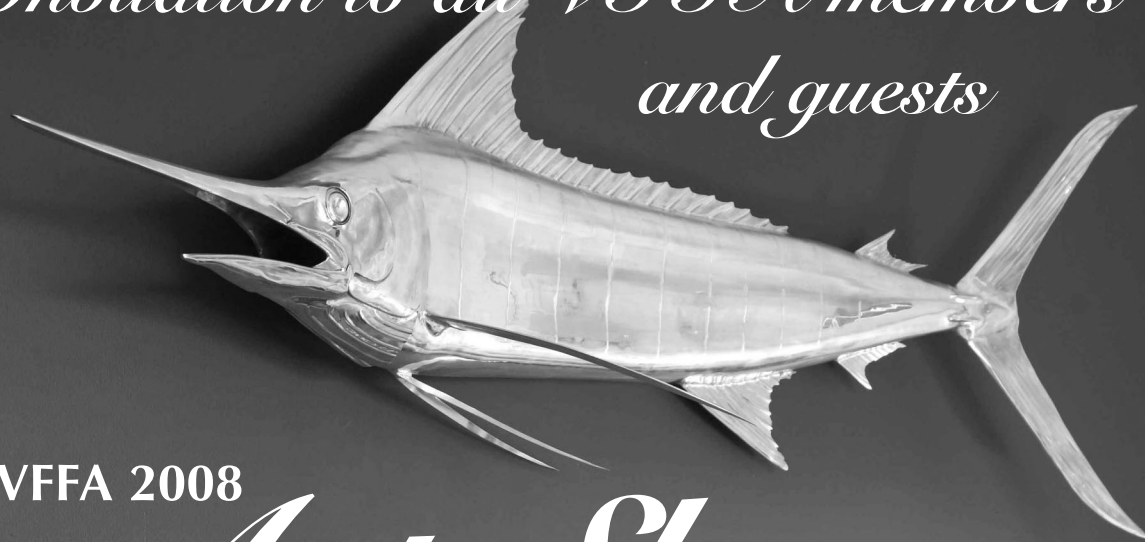
15 June 2008
from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm.

BBQ Lunch Provided

FLY FISHING IN SPUD COUNTRY

An invitation from the Latrobe Valley Fly Fishers to fish their dams was gratefully accepted and a contingent of VFFA members made their way to Thorpdale on a chilly Sunday morning. Upon our arrival, we teamed up with LVFF members who escorted us to fish a couple of their dams prior to lunch. The barbeque / continental lunch and socialising with a good bunch of fellow fly fishers was a winner. The raffle was also a successful event, as indicated by the smiles on a couple of VFFA members' faces. After lunch it was back to the dams for an afternoon session. Although most members caught a fish or two, the general opinion was that the activity was slow. This was possibly due to weather conditions. The suggestion was made that we return later in the year when the weather warms up.

We thank the Latrobe Valley Fly Fishers for their kind invitation and generous hospitality.



*Invitation to all VFFA members
and guests*

VFFA 2008

Art Show

Venue
Victorian Artists Society
430 Albert Street, East Melbourne

Opening Night
Friday 25 July - 6.30pm until 9.00pm
Open Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 July - 1.30pm until 4.30pm

Catering by Jean Jaques
RSVP essential (see insert)

TROUT EARN THEIR KEEP

(Excerpt from *Weekly Times* 28/5/2008)

Over Christmas and New year, the Murray Darling Basin Commission advertised tenders for companies to provide means for the eradication of brown and rainbow trout as an “alien” species in the Murray Darling Basin.

I was astonished that the MDBC was unaware of the contribution that this beneficial species makes to tourism and rural and regional economies. Recreational angling for trout in northeastern Victoria generates \$288 million a year.

I was even more astonished the MDBC could take such a simplistic attitude to the complexity of an environment that had been altered by more than 200 years of agriculture and infrastructure such as dams and water-distribution systems.

I am a strong supporter of biodiversity in all its forms and I am aware that flow rates, temperature regimes and storages have altered our waterways so that many native fish cannot live or breed in these changed conditions. Having evolved to respond to droughts and floods they are not successful in the new tailrace circumstances. Brown and rainbow trout have adapted to the changes and provide a superb recreational fishery.

Vast areas of the Murray Darling Basin are suited to native fish. Anglers, including those who fish for trout, love to catch native fish, many of which are returned unharmed.

Unfortunately it is disappointing to see the MDBC is unable to understand the complexity of the resource they are charged with managing. The MDBC has acted on the basis of environmental fanaticism in its desire to eradicate all “alien” creatures. The MDBC should be more sensitive to the needs of country towns and regional economies.

Where conditions suit native fish, the Australian Trout Foundation actively supports their restoration and enhancement, but where conditions are unsuitable for native fish and eminently suitable as a trout fishery, then the MDBC should recognize the importance of brown and rainbow trout.

Geoff Hall

President, Australian Trout Foundation

CATCH AND RELEASE – CATCH AND KILL?

The VRFish Monthly Report for May carries the following item which may be of interest to members:

“Issues on the other side of the world – You may be interested to note that catch and release fishing will be banned in Switzerland from next year. Anglers in the country will have to demonstrate their expertise by taking a course on humane methods of catching fish, under new legislation outlined by the Swiss Federal Parliament. The new legislation states that a fish caught should be killed immediately following its capture, with a sharp blow to the head from a blunt instrument. Also the use of live bait and barbed hooks is also prohibited, except in certain situations. The laws come into effect in 2009. Food for thought – this is the second country now in Europe to adopt these types of regulations!”

One would think that Catch and Release was more humane. Perhaps we should ask the fish for their preference!

VFFA FLY-IN HAYES ON BRUMBY'S

MARCH 2008

If you had to pick a place that provided all the essentials for a successful fly-fishing centre this would have to be it. Peter Hayes has created a venue that caters to all aspects of a fly fisher's wants, including comfortable rooms and facilities. Originally a conference centre attached to the Cressy Research Facility, it has now been refurbished by Peter as a fabulous fly-fishing lodge.

The future "staged" development plans present a vision of a wonderful recreation facility that will become a national and probably international icon for fly-fishers. The days began with casting tutorial sessions and lots of good advice to try to rid us of our bad habits. Then we were out onto



Peter Hayes and Hamish Hughes on the move on the Maqaurie River. Mid-afternoon the Red Spinners and Hoppers are on and we are into fish.

the local waters to put the training into practice. We were amazed at the progress we made in such a short time.

We wish Peter the very best on his future success. Photos of his fishing lodge can be found on pages 62-65 of the Autumn edition (number 51) of FlyLife magazine.

MR GADGET REPORTS

I had a ball spending three days exploring the shallow backwaters and byways of Brumby's Creek on my float boat. It wasn't easy to find actively feeding fish, although there were enough "oncercs" splashing around to maintain interest, if not catch rates. My most satisfying experience came from spotting, stalking and hooking a good brown of around 2 lbs. This involved rowing and then stealthily walking the boat over large weed mats to get within casting range. After a number of fly changes the fish took a largish red spinner with gusto. Tragically my tippet divorced my leader after a brief and acrobatic tussle – a good reminder to keep checking lines and knots. I can confirm that ordinary mainland curses are entirely appropriate in Tasmania!

My final day was an absolute delight "bleeding" my new 6'6" Waggoner bamboo rod on the gorgeously coloured browns of the Liffey River. Peter Hayes' directions saw me on the water less than 30 minutes after leaving the Lodge. Then in some four hours of fishing I spooked around 100 fish, raised about 30, pricked around 20 and landed exactly 10 – none of them large but all of them lovely. The rod was a revelation. It's short length and amazing ability to throw a line enabled me fish really tight spots in ways I wouldn't have managed nearly as well with my longer 4-weight Winston. My only problem was the lightning speed of the takes – more like

rainbows than browns. The Liffey's tranquil surroundings did little to condition me for quick reflexes.

Would I do it all again? You betcha!...

Jon Kenfield

Note: I had a practice session on Hayes' pond with this 6'6" rod and was amazed at how easy it cast and roll cast almost right across the casting pond with minimal effort. I want one !!!

Rick

GEORGE SHOWS TWO VFFA NOVICES TASMANIA

Rob McLachlan and Gordon Baker

Arthurs Lake on day two was approached with some trepidation after the pastoral care of host Peter Hayes. Apparently much of our fly fishing was 'old men's diseases'. George explained that the fishing had been poor because of the cold weather as he set us up for loch-style fishing with teams of two or three dry flies. The middle fly was a carrot – an attractor designed to look like a 2 cm carrot. The point fly was either a CDC hopper (Royal Coachman body with large grey CDC feather wing) or a Shaving Brush emerger, and the top dropper (when used) was some other exotic fly whose name we have forgotten. These were tied onto

untapered leaders which were 4 – 5 metres in length. Casting with the wind – high back and forward casts with no false casts – was OK, but casting into the wind with three flies attached was 'tangle city' for GB.

We started from the boat ramp near the wall about noon, with the wind from NNW, and in Morass Bay found a long wind lane where another guide boat was prospecting. We moved up and fished a section of it after they had left. Following a period of no action we stopped for morning tea – huge muffins and bottled water. Then the wind changed more westerly and we moved to the windward shore of Neil Island where there are good weed beds. It was fairly choppy, which George felt was good. He manoeuvred the boat along the shore about 20m out, using the drogue and bow mounted electric motor with Dick Tracey wristwatch-like controller. RMcL, truly a novice to this style of lake fishing, was skeptical but within a few minutes the head of a beautiful brown popped up and 'crunched the carrot'. Three were caught before George provided a sumptuous lunch of beer, stuffed rolls and plunger coffee. It was apparent that it was about to rain and George, always showing a positive outlook, felt that this was good as the moisture would make it difficult for the duns to get off the water. He aborted a final



George and Rob on Arthurs Lake. Looking for "X" marks the spot.

drift along a rocky and treed area near Jenkins Island and we moved to Muddy Bay. The other guide and client were already there, but George knew the guide and we saw fish rising out in the middle of the bay. We were soon into more fish using George's "scratching 'em up" approach. This involved covering as much water as possible by leaving the flies in any one place for only a few seconds before giving them a 30-40cm long strip to pull them under to make small subsurface wakes of white turbulence (according to George the flies are purpose built for this). They then pop up to the surface and stick out provocatively. George also suggested we give them longer exposures on every third cast or so to "mix it up a bit".

Our contemplation of the ingenuity of this system and our musing on what the fish thought of it all was interrupted by takes, mostly on the carrot. However concentrating on the carrot was also a mistake. RMcL was not familiar with fishing two flies. He exclaimed, "Look, there's a rise just past my fly", to which George wryly observed, "Yes, on your other fly". Thereafter we kept one eye on each fly.

During this time the rain started and got quite heavy, requiring rainwear. Later on it abated and the wind dropped, and feeding fish could be cast to individually. The water looked an oily grey brown against the overcast sky, and the trout were porpoising in lines of three or four metres. Great fun! However overexcitement had us lifting flies out of the fishes' mouths on a number of occasions. And the collapse of 'line management' techniques when trying too hard to cast to specific fish resulted in some spectacular 'mare's nest' tangles. Amongst all the hysterical laughter, George kept his cool and somehow resisted grasping a rod to show us how to really fish under pressure. Overall with 15 fish boated and released, we had a memorable day of champagne fishing with George.



George drifts over the causeway on the Macquarie River near Cressy.

Drift-boating the Macquarie River (Cressy to Longford) with George on day 6 was another red-letter day. By now Commandant Hayes' instructions each morning had induced a state of panic in those of us used to thinking only about fishing and not knowing or caring about our technique.

George informed us the river fishing was poor because of the falling water level. He attached his own version of the Royal Wulff – wings made of High Vis instead of calf tail, and deer hair tails instead of moose or elk, or Shaving Brushes on 5 pound tippets on conventional tapered leaders. We cast in the direction of fish seen rising, most often by George, and drifted down to the take. Here a quick strike was also fatal. Otherwise we cast to likely spots, usually in the channels between the steep mud banks and the strap weed. With all that casting tuition GB found he was good at landing the fly on either the bank or the floating strap weed. There were plenty of rising fish. Sometimes rises were close together, leading to some spectacular double 'hook ups'. George was busy all day, but still had time to present a delicious meal, and as it was a warm day, 'Yes a Cascade would be lovely, thank you'.

In all some 16 fish were caught – three small (two of which were rainbows) and the others from 0.6-1.2 kg. There was probably an equal number either missed on the strike or which came off, along with a multitude of spooked fish. Our catch rate per opportunity we calculated at 8%. George’s modesty allowed him only to say he would get 80% of the “sippers.” George is a good man who we won’t forget for a long while.

HAMISH AND RICK IN THE NORTH-EAST

I have done reasonably well over the years in avoiding breakages to my equipment. I certainly made up for it here – breaking my 5 weight Guide series trying to retrieve a fly from a branch, and then my XP 6 weight while getting it out of Hamish’s car boot. I strongly recommend that you buy your rods from Aussie sources, as I was able to get my XP tip replaced the next day and had my Guide series 2nd section replaced on my return. Thanks to Ross Pullen from Essential Fly Fisher in Launceston and Pro Angler, Bentleigh.

I blame the 5 weight mishap on being nervous after almost stepping on a big... big... black... tiger thingo in the grass at Malahide, and then a few minutes later alerting Hamish to another, which was draped along a tree trunk near where he was wading.

I trapped a couple of nice browns after dropping a hopper over the high bank as the fish cruised through the tree stumps and slurped my offering on their roving beat. Some of the browns we encountered were acting quite nervously. One in particular that I watched for quite a while was flitting in and out of cover and then rising through several feet to the surface to feed and then racing back down to its cover. I called on Hamish to come over and cast from a more favourable position while I kept watch. We must have stalked this trout for half an hour before he finally disappeared. It was all great fun.

We had a fabulous time on one of the smallest waters, the St Pats. Small fish but fat and full of fight. They all went back and we are hoping to catch up with them again



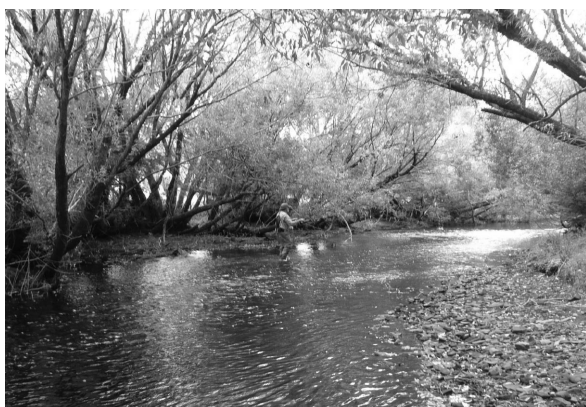
Rick on “Malahide” just upstream of the bridge.



It may be possible to have more fun than this, but its hard to imagine!



We also did OK in Brumbies Creek.



Rick wading the St Pats. Thin water with some nice pools and runs. This is actually one of the more open sections. (Gadget... perfect for the short rod.)



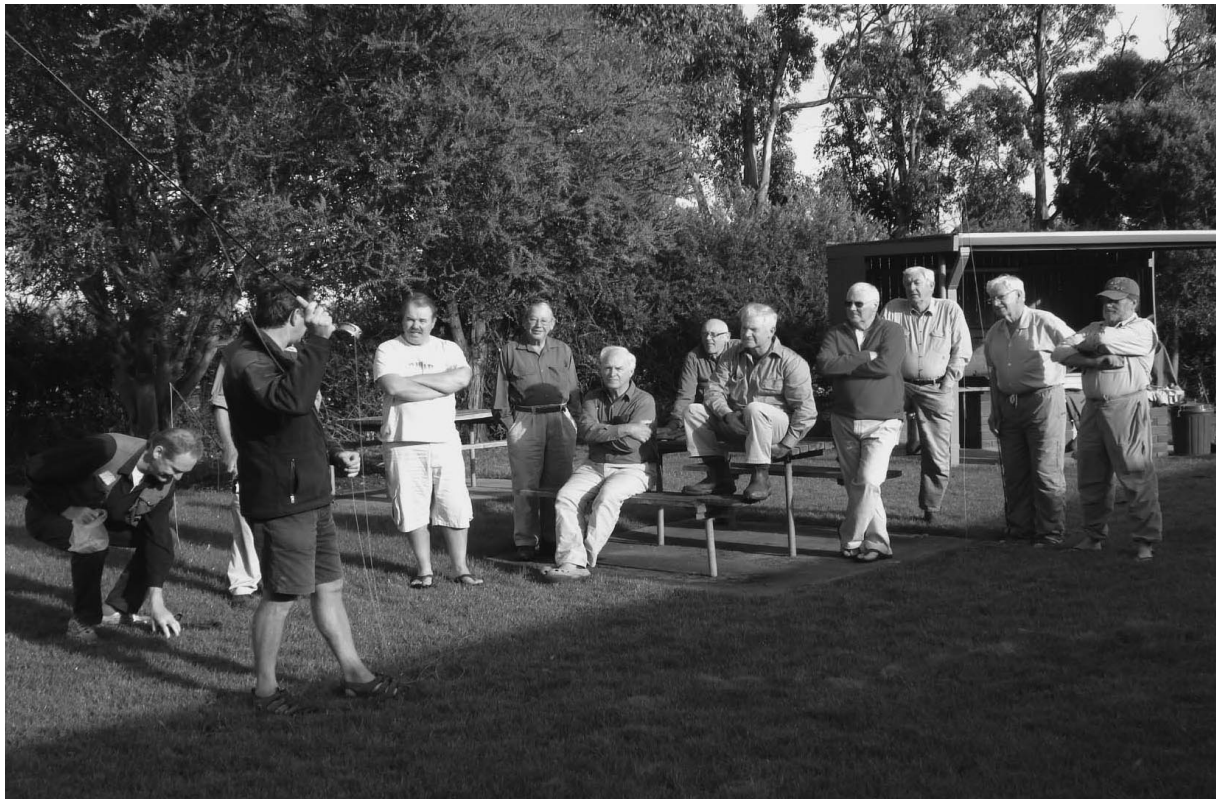
Brumby's Creek lagoons. Relaxed punt fishing for the less energetic.



A nice shot of George and Rick on Arthurs Lake. Hamish took 5 to 3 lb with Rick at only one. "I still reckon he was poaching my water... Mumbled Rick"



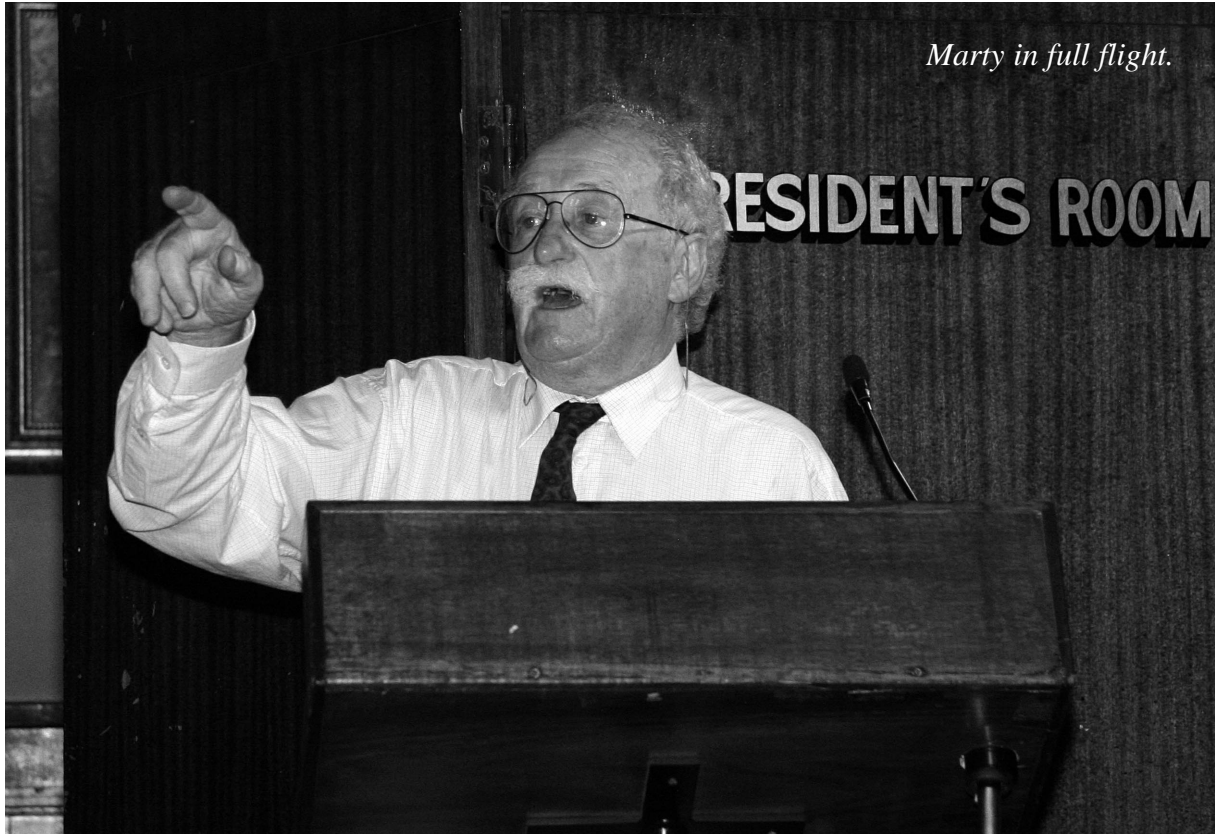
Hamish was able to get this shot while stalking the bank of the Maquaurie. In the float boat "Blue Damsel" are Rick Williams, hooked into a nice trout that wants to hide in the weeds, Peter Hayes and Peter Boag. I am withholding the photos of Peter Hayes undressed as I may need blackmail evidence later.



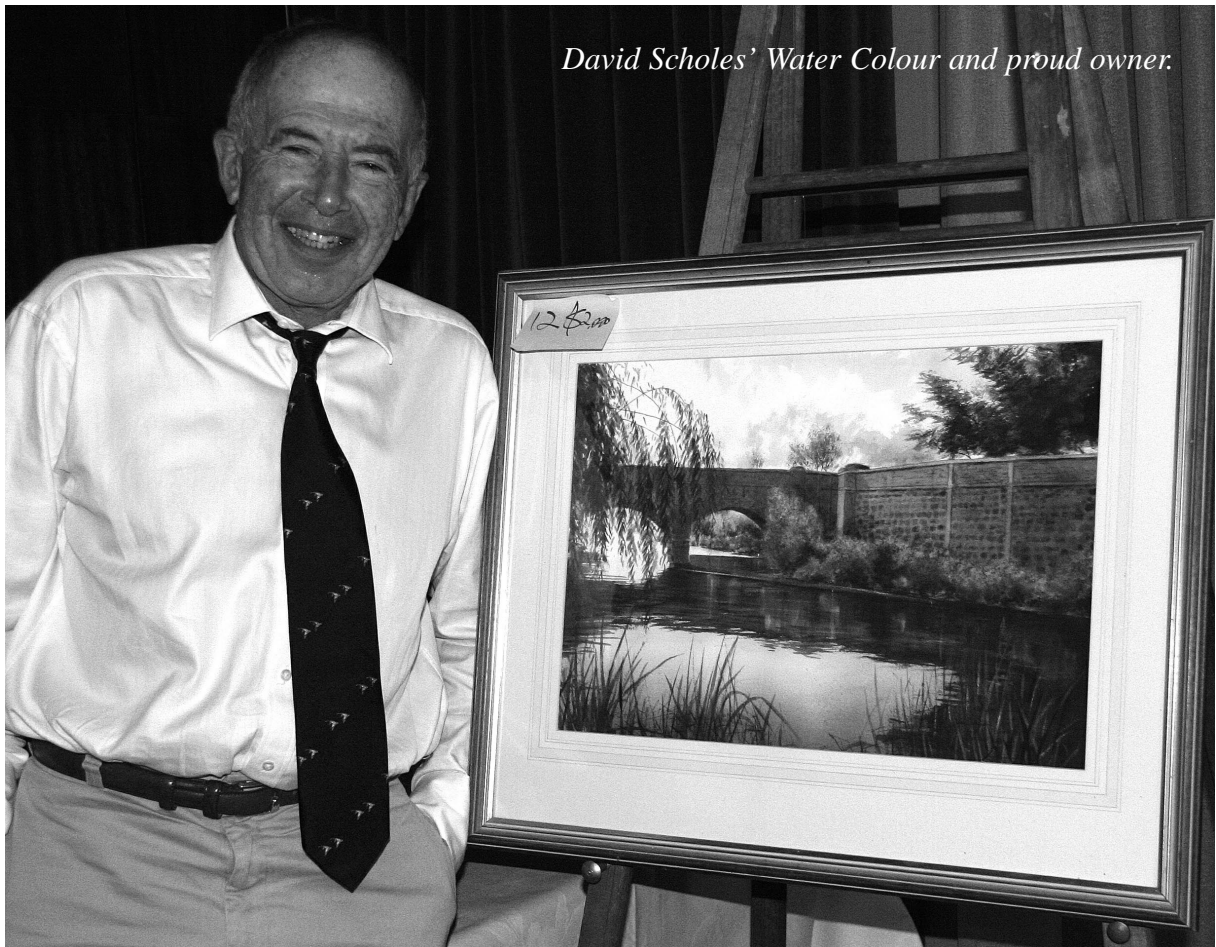
Peter Hayes holding a post breakfast casting session. Trying to help the group get rid of the “old mens diseases. A short lesson each day did wonders for our skill levels. Note my stance... this lesson was probably directed at me.



Some Tassie members joined the group for dinner and lively discussion including Ross Pullen, Mike Stevens and Don Urqhart. Photo by Rick Williams.



Marty in full flight.



David Scholes' Water Colour and proud owner.

MAY AUCTION OF DAVID SCHOLES' LIBRARY

BOOK NO.	ED. & PUB.	AUTHOR	TITLE	PRICE PD
BOOK 1	1st/2004	NSW Rod Fishers' Society	<i>The Flowing Stream - 100 years of angling...</i>	\$100
BOOK 2	1st/1994	Tony Ritchie	<i>Dry Fly-Fishing for Trout</i>	\$130
BOOK 3	1st/1994	Tony Ritchie	<i>Finding Feeding Trout</i>	\$70
BOOK 4	1st/1949	John McDonald*	<i>The Complete Fly Fisherman</i>	\$170
BOOK 5	1st/1910	F.M. Halford	<i>Modern Development of the Dry Fly</i>	\$210
BOOK 6	1st/1950	Vincent Marinaro	<i>A Modern Dry - Fly Code</i>	\$270
BOOK 7	1st/1979	Tony Orman	<i>The Sport in Fishing</i>	\$90
BOOK 8	N/A	John Waller Hills	<i>A History of Fly Fishing for Trout</i>	\$90
BOOK 9	1st/2000	Seth Norman	<i>The Fly Fisher's Guide to Crimes of Passion</i>	\$80
BOOK 10	1st/1968	Sir Hudson Fysh	<i>Round the Bend in the Stream</i>	\$210
BOOK 11	2nd/1970	W.E. Frost & M.E. Brown	<i>The Trout</i>	\$20
BOOK 12	1st/1968	John Turnbull	<i>A Fly on the Stream</i>	\$110
BOOK 13	9th/1985	Southland Acclimatisation Society	<i>Trout Fishing in Southland New Zealand</i>	\$50
BOOK 14	3rd/1941	John Waller Hills	<i>A Summer on the Test</i>	\$40
BOOK 15	N/A/1876	William Henderson	<i>Notes and Reminiscences of my Life as an Angler</i>	\$190
BOOK 16	N/A/1946	L.J. Wackett	<i>My Hobby is Trout Fishing</i>	\$900
BOOK 17	N/A	Major General Geoffrey Brooke	<i>The Major Goes Fishing.</i>	\$20
BOOK 18	1st/1951	Roderick Haig-Brown	<i>Fisherman's Spring</i>	\$160
BOOK 19	1st/N/A	R.H. Wigram	<i>The Shannon Rise</i>	\$800
BOOK 20	1st/1948	Roderick Haig-Brown	<i>A River Never Sleeps</i>	\$60
BOOK 21	1st/1899	H.G. McClelland	<i>How to Tie Flies for Trout and Grayling Fishing</i>	\$260
BOOK 22	1st/1937	Bernard Alfieri & W.J.M. Menzies	<i>Where to Catch Salmon and Trout</i>	\$80
BOOK 23	1st/1978	Ron MacKenzie	<i>The Ratbag Mind of Dinas Vawr</i>	\$110
BOOK 24	1st/1977	Charles McLaren	<i>Fishing for Salmon</i>	\$40
BOOK 25	1st/1963	Charles C. McLaren	<i>The Art of Sea Trout Fishing</i>	\$20
BOOK 26	1st/1884	Edward Hamilton M.D.	<i>Fly-Fishing for Salmon, Trout and Grayling</i>	\$40
BOOK 27	Withdrawn from auction.			
BOOK 28	5th/1947	Arthur Ransome	<i>Rod and Line</i>	\$40
BOOK 29	1st/1970	Neil Robson & David Scholes	<i>Tasmanian Angler</i>	\$600
BOOK 30	2nd/1930	John Waller Hills	<i>A Summer on the Test</i>	\$250
BOOK 31	1st/1998	Don Gilmour	<i>Trout Fishery of Tasmania - Volume III - 1950 - 1999</i>	\$110
BOOK 32	1st/1973	Don Gilmour	<i>The Tasmanian Trout</i>	\$210
BOOK 33	1st/1953	Mosely and Kimmins	<i>Trichoptera of Australia and New Zealand (Caddis-Flies)</i>	\$60
BOOK 34	1st/1992	Bryn Hammond	<i>Halcyon Days</i>	\$150
BOOK 35	N/A/1990	Alfred Ronalds	<i>The Fly-Fisher's Entomology</i>	\$220



Keen buyers



BOOK 36	1st/1980	Michael Joseph	<i>Muriel Foster's Fishing Diary</i> (with slip case)	\$110
BOOK 37	1st/1959	Cooma-Monaro Historical Society	<i>Historic Kiandra - A Guide to the History of the District</i>	\$120
BOOK 38	Pub. Proof	R.H. Wigram	<i>The Fly</i>	\$380
BOOK 39	1st/1947-8	John Rodgers	<i>English Rivers</i>	\$50
BOOK 40	1st/1971	Rodger Hungerford	<i>Guide to Trout Angling</i>	\$100
BOOK 41	3rd/2001	R. Slater	<i>Rod and Line in Tasmania</i>	\$1,100
BOOK 42	1st/2004	Rob Sloane - Editor	<i>Short Casts</i>	\$160
BOOK 43	1st/1952	J.R. Harris	<i>An Angler's Entomology</i>	\$360
BOOK 44	1st/1989	Robert Sloane	<i>More About Trout</i>	\$80
BOOK 45	N/A	Scottish Tourist Board Publication	<i>Angler's Guide to Scottish Waters 1977</i>	\$60
BOOK 46	N/A/1958	C.S.I.R.O.	<i>The Trout Fishery in Tasmania</i>	\$160
BOOK 47	2nd/1987	Greg French	<i>Trout Fishing in Tasmania</i>	\$180
BOOK 48	1st/1998	Roy Dean	<i>Memories of the Shannon Rise</i>	\$140
BOOK 49	1st/1969	Jack Pollard - Editor	<i>Australian and New Zealand Fishing</i>	\$40
BOOK 50	2nd/1965	Charles Ritz	<i>A Fly Fisher's Life</i>	\$200
BOOK 51	3rd/1997	Rob Sloane	<i>Fly Fishing Fundamentals</i>	\$50
BOOK 52	1st/1988	John Roberts	<i>To Rise A Trout</i>	\$170
BOOK 53	2nd/1959	Bernard Venables	<i>The Angler's Companion</i>	\$40
BOOK 54	2nd/1966	Sir Hudson Fysh	<i>Qantas Rising</i>	\$320
BOOK 55	1st/1970	Sir Hudson Fysh	<i>Wings to the World - The Story of Qantas</i>	\$400
BOOK 56	N/A	C.F. Walker	<i>Brown Trout and Dry Fly</i>	\$80
BOOK 57	1st/1955	Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr.	<i>Matching The Hatch</i>	\$140
BOOK 58	1st/1966	Douglas Stewart	<i>The Seven Rivers</i>	\$260
BOOK 59	1st/1959	George Patterson	<i>Chasing Rainbows</i>	\$420
BOOK 60	1st/1953	C.F. Walker	<i>Chalk Stream Flies</i>	\$40
BOOK 61	1st/2004	John Brookes	<i>Lifelong Pleasure - Seventy Years of Fly Fishing</i>	\$110
BOOK 62	1st/1950	L.J. Wackett	<i>Studies of An Angler</i>	\$100
BOOK 63	4th/1985	Sidney Spencer	<i>Clear Water Trout Fishing With Worm</i>	\$40
BOOK 64	1st/1991	Peter Leuver	<i>The Fisher's Log Book</i>	\$140
BOOK 65	1st/1938	R.H. Wigram	<i>Trout and Fly in Tasmania</i>	\$1,800
BOOK 66	1st/1951	R.H. Wigram	<i>The Uncertain Trout</i>	\$440
BOOK 67	1st/1961	George Patterson	<i>Angling in the Andes</i>	\$160
BOOK 68	N/A	R.D. Baird	<i>A Trout Rose</i>	\$70
BOOK 69	1st/2002	John Gooderham & Edward Tsyrlin	<i>The Waterbug Book</i>	\$80
BOOK 70	1st/2002	Greg French	<i>Frog Call</i>	\$60
BOOK 71	1st/1968	John Child	<i>Australian Pond and Stream Life</i>	\$30
BOOK 72	1st/1958	Joe Brooks	<i>Complete Book of Fly Fishing</i>	\$180
BOOK 73	1st/1966	Jack Pollard - Editor	<i>The Scream of the Reel</i>	\$40

BOOK 74	1st/1993	Graeme Bourke	<i>Come Fly Fish With Me</i>	\$120
BOOK 75	1st/1991	Peter Leuver	<i>Fur & Feather</i>	\$160
BOOK 76	1st/1978	Max Stokes	<i>Tasmanian Trout Fly Patterns</i>	\$1,050
BOOK 77	1st/1999	Brian Cadle	<i>With Rod and Reel Angling Memories...</i>	\$240
BOOK 78	1964	The House of Hardy	<i>Anglers Guide and Catalogue for 1964</i>	\$60
BOOK 79	1st/1977	Don Gilmour	<i>Trout in North-Western Tasmania</i>	\$40

LOT 80

Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>NTFA Annual Report 1966</i>	
Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>NTFA Annual Report 1962</i>	
Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>NTFA Annual Report 1961</i>	
Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>NTFA Annual Report 1955</i>	\$60

LOT 81

Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>Annual Report 1979</i>	
Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>Tasmanian Report 1980</i>	
Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association	<i>Tasmanian Angling Report 1981</i>	
Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association	<i>Annual Report 1970-71</i>	
Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association	<i>Annual Report 1969-70</i>	\$40

LOT 82

ANGLING – A “Country Life” Publication: Nov-'53, Feb-'54, Mar-'54, Apr-'54, Jan-'55, Jul-'55, Aug-'55, Sep-'55		
A tourist book <i>Guide to Fresh Water Fishing in Wales</i> .		
A booklet titled <i>The Life and Work of Robin John Tillyard 1881-1937</i>		
A <i>Printers' and Authors' Proof Corrections</i> card that was used by David Scholes to assist him in his writings.		
A booklet containing information on <i>Willows as Weeds of National Significance</i>		\$280

LOT 83

A series of fishing tackle catalogues <i>Tight Lines</i> produced by ABU: 1959, 1966, 1967 and 1971.		
A catalogue <i>The Rod Box Winchester 1974/75</i>		
A catalogue <i>Redpath & Co. Kelso-On-Tweed</i> (for Salmon and Trout Flies and all Fishing Tackle)		
A catalogue <i>With Rod and Reel</i> by Alcock & Pierce – Retail Only – 1940		\$90

LOT 84

An original watercolour painting done by David Scholes titled: <i>Elizabeth River and Bridge, Campbelltown, Tasmania.</i>		\$2,000
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ON STOCKING THE TEST

I recently had the opportunity of visiting the Test River in Hampshire with Dr. Rodney Foale (an England based VFFA member) who is a member of a syndicate that holds water on the stream near Stockbridge. The mayfly hatch was several weeks off and, as is done each year, fish were to be released into the river in preparation. A Range Rover towing a tandem trailer managed to get down to the water's edge, fish were netted from the tank into large buckets and these carried to points along the stream and tipped in. Four hundred well-conditioned browns, each around two pounds, were released and they seemed quite pleased to be free of the tank which had travelled from Norfolk. Cost: at £8 each - £3,200.

Rodney's water was a mile or so on the right bank. I was told that on the opposite side the owner had recently released two thousand fish up to four pounds. He allows anglers to try and catch them upon payment of £700 per day so I suppose he is trying to give value for money. Statistics show that approximately 85% of fish released are caught in the first season.

John Pilkington

RiverFly

Tasmania

Fishing report, April/May 2008

If you are interested in one of these then send me an email now as time-slots are limited. E-mail dhackett@tassie.net.au



Heading back from a wilderness trip

Why should I use a guide?

I was going through some client testimonials and picked up this great thought: 'The real advantage of a guide is to show you what you don't even realise you don't know'.

Fishing tips

Always keep moving, constantly looking for fish. Sighted trout are far more exciting to catch, and generally easier to catch, in comparison to fish that are expected to eat your fly blind fishing.

National Award Win

During April, Riverfly won the National 'Hidden Jewel Award' run by OM4 Tourism, and judged by the producer of the Getaway program among others.

The OM4 Tourism Hidden Jewel Awards are for small Australian tourism businesses that offer a fascinating or unusual visitor experience - but remain relatively undiscovered. For us this was a great win, and among other things has earned us a new website which will be up and running in time for the next newsletter.



In Season Tasmania – the book

In Season Tasmania—A Year of Fly Fishing Highlights has continued to sell well, and receive great feedback. It has recently been reviewed in The Age, Sydney Morning Herald, The Weekend Australian and Tasmania 40Degree South Magazine. On top of a review about to appear in Australian Traveller Magazine, check out this article due for release next month. If it doesn't get your imagination going I'd be surprised!

www.australiantraveller.com/flyfishingtas

If you would like to order a softcover version of the book, simply drop me an Email at orders@inseasonflyfishing.com and I'll send it out with free post for orders in the next 7 days. Alternatively pick up a copy from Berkerlouw Books in NSW, Readings in Victoria, or in most Tasmanian bookshops or Australian tackle stores.

We got hitched!

It's been a while between newsletters, but I have a good excuse: finally, Simone and I got hitched! A great day was had at the Launceston wedding, with the changing of the seasons adding a bit of colour to the event. But enough about that, and on to the fishing!

Fishing report

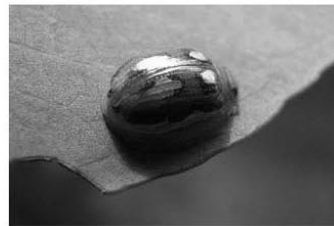
Put simply, late March and all of April was awesome. Mayfly and ants were the feature, with most days consisting of sight fishing to steady risers. With the water caked with food, these fish were typically tough to crack, but this just increased the rewards when they were. Without doubt, these two months were my favourite this season. The CDC F-fly, Glister Tag, Black and Peacock, Glister Brush and Possum Shaving Brush were the go-to patterns during this period. All of these are pictured and available from my *In Season Fly Fishing* website in the shop. www.inseasonflyfishing.com

It was great to see lots of repeat clients post-Christmas. Tim came back for his second trip this year, as well as Peter S., whilst repeat clients Paul (with his mate Dick), and Foy also made it back for the season.

While the rivers are now shut, a few Lakes are still open. One of my favourites is Lake Rowallan, where myself and Brian (another repeat client) visited last week. We stalked the edges, casting to rainbows and browns hunting gum-beetles amongst the dead trees. The fishing was as good as you would find anywhere in summer, with dozens of fish to cast to. Four were caught and released on the dry fly (using large and small

Bruce Gibson Gum Beetles as featured in the In Season Fly Fishing shop (www.inseasonflyfishing.com).

A rainbow was the largest at 2 1/4lbs, with the rest being browns of around 1 1/2lbs. We did polaroid one trout at well over 4 pounds, which was enough to get me back there fishing last weekend! Next season, May will well and truly be part of my fishing and guiding calendar.



A Lake Rowallan gum beetle

2007-2008 wilderness campout trips Rivers and Lakes

Many repeat clients this year experienced wilder places than I have ever taken them to before. One reason is because I believe that this is one of Tasmania's trump cards—the wilderness. The other being the kilometres of trackless rivers we got to fish, never bumping into anyone.

The wild fishing in these out of the way places was great, to the point where I have had a number of requests for wilderness campout trips next season. As such, I am preparing two packages to choose from: the Wild River Campout, and the Western Lakes campout trip.

FLY OF THE MONTH

The CDC San Classic

As I will be fishing the San River in eastern Poland in a few months I have featured the CDC San Classic as the fly of the month for June. Classic it is as I have absolutely no doubt that it would prove to be a very useful pattern on any trout stream where trout feed on small mayflies. So many trout flies tied to imitate small, dainty mayflies are too bulky. A coarse and bulky fly might fish well when trout are feeding on beetles and grasshoppers but it is hopeless when the fish are sipping down delicate little mayflies. The features of the CDC San Classic which make it a pattern that would deceive such trout are its sparseness and simplicity. And the buoyancy of the CDC feathers would ensure that at least part of the fly would float.

I do not have the tying of the CDC San Classic. However, I have seen a photograph of the fly at the website www.fly.fih.pl/ and I am fairly confident that the materials used are grey CDC feather and blue rabbit fur or a synthetic substitute. The flies on the website are tied by Kuba, who is reputed to be the leading fly tier in eastern Europe. The flies on the website are an interesting selection of patterns. One streamer pattern was virtually identical to our own black matuka.

TYING

Silk: Black
Hook: #16 to 20
Body: Dubbed blue rabbit fur
Wings: Grey CDC feather



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LIBRARY NEWS

All members should remember that the Mick Martin Memorial Library is one of the most extensive collections of fly-fishing literature in Australia. It is valuable in its own right but is a great asset to members wishing to expand their knowledge or who simply enjoy sitting by the fireside and vicariously enjoying the exploits of others. In addition, the library boasts a number of videos on trout fishing. Our librarian Marty Rogers will be available prior to each general meeting to assist members wishing to borrow books or videos.

The library is divided into three parts.

Part 1 Books available for loaning to members.

Part 2 Books available for reference only and not to be taken from the library.

Part 3 Books bequeathed to the Association and not to be taken from the cabinet.

OVERDUE BOOKS

Our librarian reports that a number of members have failed to return library books on time. Could all those book loving members who have failed to return books promptly do so.

V.F.F.A. ITEMS FOR SALE

The Association has the following quality items for sale:

Columbia Shirts.....	\$70.00 each
Polarfleece jacket with VFFA logo.....	\$40.00 each
Association ties (blue or maroon).....	\$35.00 each
Cloth badges	\$7.00 each
Diaries.....	\$2.00 each
<i>The Australian Trout by Jack Ritchie</i>	\$20.00
<i>(Special offer – buy one, get one free!)</i>	
V.F.F.A. car stickers	\$2.00 each

Members wishing to purchase any of these items should contact Hugh Maltby prior to the monthly General Meeting on telephone 9455 9017.

VALUED DONORS

The following made donations for the raffle at the 2007 Annual Dinner:

- Armadale Angler • Aussie Angler • Australian Fishing Network • Balwyn Newsagency • Compleat Flyfisher • Fly Life Publications • J M Gillies
- Mayfly Tackle • Michael Steven’s Publishing • Millbrook Lakes Lodge • Neil Grose - Guided Fishing • Nick Taransky - Bamboo Rod Maker • Pro Angler Fishing Tackle • Ray Brown, Onkaparinga Flies & Cane Rods • Shakespeare Australia • Small Stream Fly Fishing