

**BENDIGO
& DISTRICT FLY
FISHERS INC.**

Inc. No. A00 043 73B



September 2014

www.bdffc.weebly.com

Diary Dates:

- 2nd Oct 2014 Committee Meeting
 - 9th Oct 2014 Fly tying
 - 16th Oct 2014 Fly Tying
 - 23rd Oct 2014 Fly Tying
 - 30th Oct General Meeting
-

Wastell Shield 2014

Saturday and Sunday October
18th & 19th

At locations as per our June newsletter
and on our website.

Contact Jeff Willey for
accommodation details.

Special Event

Rise Fly fishing Film Festival
30th September 2014

Your support is requested to make this
a success for the club.

Tickets available from Greg Hellsten.



October Monthly Outing

Saturday/Sunday October 25th/26th –
Barkers Creek Reservoir

1st round of club Championships

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PRESIDENT:

Damian Keegan Phone 0400 168 483

SECRETARY:

Jeff Willey Phone 5447 1449

TREASURER:

Tom Charles Phone 0431 981 190

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

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Bendigo & District Flyfishers Inc.
Minutes of Committee Meeting Thursday 4th September 2014
At Brennan Park Clubrooms

The Vice President opened the meeting at 7:35pm.

Present: A. Jacobs, L. Crimeen, A. Chisholm, T. Charles, J. Willey, A. Choat, R. Booth, G. Hellsten and R. Garlick.

Apologies: J. Singe, S. Charles and D. Keegan.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed a true and accurate record.

Moved: T. Charles 2nd: A. Chisholm **Carried**

Business Arising: To be dealt with in general business.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported that annual subs have been good, but there are still a few outstanding. It was moved by T. Charles and seconded by L. Crimeen that the report as tabled be accepted. **Carried**

Correspondence:

1. Various club newsletters;
2. Bank statement; and
3. Various business junk mail.

General Business:

1. Greg Hellsten informed the club that the Rise Film Festival being held on Tuesday the 30th September at 7:00pm is progressing well. The cost will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for juniors (under 18 and under).
2. Jeff Willey informed the meeting that two cabins have been booked for the Wastell Shield at Creswick and anyone wishing to attend should contact him. There was some discussion about every member having to go to Creswick to register and why a block registration could not be done. At the end of the day the Ballarat Club conduct the competition and for this year every participant will have to register at Creswick.
3. The visit by David Dodds has been postponed until the new year.
4. The annual Pie & Pastie night was a success and the Vice President thanked Jeff Willey for organizing the pies and pasties.
5. The issue of safety at the pool during the casting lessons is still progressing and the club is hopeful for an acceptable outcome.
6. Casting at the pool has finished for the year. The Vice President thanked all who assisted over the winter months with the casting tuition and special mention to Les Crimeen who travels up from Harcourt each Saturday.
7. This months outing is to Newlyn and Hepburn Lagoon on Sunday the 28th.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8:30PM.

Jeff Willey
Sec

Joe's News September 2014

Many non fishers, have a lot of trouble understanding, why it is that fishers are so keen to get out and go fishing. Fishers are often heard to say that catching fish is not important, it is the going fishing, that matters to them. This of course confuses our non-fishing friends even more.

I might have found the answer! Whilst flicking through a magazine from a superannuation company. I saw a headline: **“How to boost your Brain Power”** The article started off with “Scientists now know that the brain has the ability to renew itself” Two experts in the field of Neuroplasticity (brain training and renewal) gave a number of ways to boost our brainpower and keep our brain active.

One of the brain boosting strategies suggested was “to take a walk in nature”. Along with dancing and doing volunteer work. *(Not all at the same time of course!)*

According to one of the experts our brains are designed to reboot when we connect with nature. I thought that this might explain why we love to go out fishing. We are rebooting our brain when we connect with nature.

There you have it – Scientific proof that going fishing is good for us. It is the equivalent of rebooting a jammed up computer by switching it off- waiting a while and turning it back on. Works for my computer, and I think going fishing might be an excellent way to reboot my brain. After all, there is scientific evidence of what we have known and read about for years.

Cheers,

Joe Singe Sept 2014

Fishing Report

Newlyn

Water levels are high and pretty clear. I've had reports of trout seen smelting but no reports of recent catches

Hepburn Lagoon

I heard of a nice 3 lb brown that took a smelt pattern on the hang recently at Hepburn. The water was a little discoloured so the yellow bodied streamer with a grey zonker strip did the trick.

Dean Res

Roger has had a couple of recent trips to Dean Res and reports that it's looking the best it has in a long time with high water levels and good visibility. On the first trip he picked up two browns up to 4 lbs on smelt patterns. On the second trip there were no trout moving so Roger flogged a wet for a couple of hours without luck but then noticed two rises in the flat water when walking back to the car. He covered the area with a dry soldier beetle pattern



and up came a beautiful 3 lb brown on the second cast. The brown was in fantastic condition and had a stomach full of smelt.

Barkers Creek Res

Barkers is slowly starting to rise now that the works have been completed. Now we need some good spring rains to boost the levels. I went down for a look early in the month and had a 2 ½ lb brown try to commit suicide by hooking himself as I wound in! He obviously liked the fast moving Chiz's Chaser... It was great to see fish of this size still surviving in Barkers, he was in fantastic condition and was put back for another day.



There have been reports of over-fishing from Barkers recently with bait fishermen taking up to 12 trout in a session. If you see any wrongdoing call 13 3474 and help protect our fisheries!

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Lauriston Res

I fished the South end of Lauriston on the 14th Sep and although it looked promising with steady inflows from the Upper Coliban Res I only managed to see one carp for the arvo – nothing else moving!

Goulburn & Rubicon

Tom and I fished the Goulburn on 19th Sep at Thornton. It was a beautiful Spring day to be out but the flow rate had increased overnight to 2500 MLD, making conditions pretty difficult, and visibility poor. We tried heavy nymphs to get to the bottom and even fished streamers down and across for a bit but to no avail. We had a look at the Rubicon after lunch but predictably it was high and discoloured.

Keep sending in your fishing reports! Now that the weather is picking up get out there and let us know how you go!

Steve Charles

Bendigo & District Fly Fishers, we want your fishing reports!!

Let us know each time you go fishing, where did you go, what time, how long, what was the weather like, did you see any fish, how were they behaving, did you catch any, see any insect activity? Even let us know if you didn't catch anything, and saw nothing - it's still valuable data on our waters, and how they're performing!

Just go to the club webpage, find the Contacts tab and click 'email' - dead simple!!
OR just use the club email address: BendigoDistrictFlyFishers@gmail.com

SPACE INVADERS

How trout became the bullies of the waterways

The above headline on the front of the *August 9th 2014 Melbourne Age Good Weekend Magazine* certainly grabbed my attention. Further investigation revealed an article full of emotive language. Such as “*For conservationists the trout is a pest on par with the fox*” “*Feral fish*” “*ravenous foreign killers*” “*When trout move in small native fish move out*”. Scientists according to journalist Daniel Flitton speak of impact” the effect of the trout on native habitat.

Mr Flitton, does at one stage recognise the effect of events such as bushfires “*Souring the water with ash*” but argues that when trout are reintroduced the “*Big mouthed invaders stake out prime territory in rivers and cool running streams*”

The author does not mention other introduced species such as English Perch (redfin) or Carp and their effect on the waterways. Nor does he mention farming practices that have cleared the river banks and allowed superphosphate to leech into the streams. Also the introduced cattle and sheep that graze by the riversides wading across and in the rivers. There is no mention of another “elephant in the room” – GLOBAL WARMING. Predictions of hotter weather. Less rain than in the past, more severe droughts etc. Surely these factors are now, or at least are soon going to, impact, on the micro organisms that the small native fish feed on.

Isn't it time that our trout are recognised as a Valued introduced Species? Not the murderers, that journalists like Mr Flitton would have people believe. I do agree that many of our small native aquatic species are under threat. But pointing your finger at trout as the only reason this is so I think is incorrect. I do not believe is the whole picture.

Casting Encounters.

Just recently a group of members Joe singe, Col Holland, Bob Evans, John Goulden and I travelled to New Zealand to fish the Turangi region for the winter run Rainbows, the timing was supposed to be right in the middle of the large runs that usually take place each year. Arriving late on the Friday evening we were all set for an exciting couple of days fishing the Mighty Tongario. Saturday morning we were out early for some exciting trouting, Joe, Col and I started on the Breakfast Pool with Col and me hooking into our first trout of the trip, but unfortunately it started to rain and within two hours the river turned to a torrent and very muddy and so ended our Tongariro river fishing.



The Breakfast Pool on the Tongariro.

Although the rain ceased the river was still dirty and was in flood, we visited other spots and all were in the similar condition apart from the spring feed Hinemaiaia commonly called the 'Hine', this river was up above normal but running clear and fishable, unfortunately the three quarter klm.of the fishable river was very crowded with other fly fishes, inspectors and Didimo Dave the protector of the local rivers. Bob and John between them managed four good Rainbows just over three ponds. On the Monday we moved to the Turanga Taupo River and found the river risen and dirty, but Steve the onsite guide said, "Tomorrow will be a great day."



Kerure Lodge our accommodation on the Turanga Taupo.

Sure enough it was with cobalt blue skies and the river down by eight inches and clearing. Now the river was only 100 metres from home and off we went, I took up the nearest spot to home and the other headed up stream, I managed to hook three large trout but could not get them to the bank across very fast water, but what a fight and superb fun. The boys returned with excellent results all catching great trout and Bob having the best results with some six to 4 ½ lb. Only one was kept for

dinner the following evening.



Bob's Trout had for tea.

Next day the weather changed but the fishing was still excellent every one caught Rainbows up to 4½ lb. I still fished my stretch of the river with another three trout hooked and bagged two. Somehow Steve the guide had heard of my success at this spot and came down to see me, saying, “Nobody fishes this stretch so close to home, they all head off upstream” and suggested we name the stretch Roger’s Run [below] when I left the stretch on our last day two other anglers were waiting to step into my spot, strange how word travels. With only two and a half days fishing we did very well with twenty seven Rainbows to 41/2lb. for the trip, with lots of good bantering, fun and great camaraderie. The last night we ate out at a fine Turangi restaurant to celebrate Joe’s 60th birthday.

Roger Aug.14



Roger's Run.

Casting Encounters.

I have recently had the opportunity to read the new book "Fly Fishing Outside the Box" written by UK Peter Hayes. [Not Our Hayes] Now I have read a great number of fly fishing books over the years and although this book is mainly about river and stream fly fishing a number of chapters were both enlightening and intriguing, ['Fishing in rivers where you can't see the trout.']['How trout see the leader.'] How many of us approach a stream with the same precautions and stealth when we can't see the trout as we would if you could see the fish. Well, according to Peter, we should unless we know for sure there are no trout there. If you fish streams often your knowledge of where trout lie in a stream is built up over time and when you come across similar situations you know where to place your fly. So it really makes sense to approach these unseen fish spots with the same care and stealth. Sit and watch the water Peter recommends 20 minutes, a trout may show its self. Think next time you're on the stream

Now this topic of the floating tippet when dry fly fishing verses sunk is very thought provoking and where the dry fly sunken tippet idea came from is not known, Peter make a very good case for the floating tippet method to be used, as he maintains that the sunken tippet is far more readily seen by the trout and the trout will have to push past the tippet in order to get at the fly. Also your fly is drowned every time you lift off and makes a distinct noise. Trout are not often 'spooked' by objects floating over them. With this I tend to agree as my own experience of never deliberately sinking my tippet when dry fly fishing, has to my knowledge not affected my catch rate. Your thoughts? Roger Sept. 14.



One recently from Newlyn.