

**BENDIGO  
& DISTRICT FLY  
FISHERS INC.**

Inc. No. A00 043 73B



March 2015

www.bdffc.weebly.com

## **Diary Dates:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> April Committee Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> April Fly Tying
- 11<sup>th</sup> April Fly Casting
- 16<sup>th</sup> April Fly Tying
- 18<sup>th</sup> April Fly Casting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April Fly Tying
- 25<sup>th</sup> April Fly Casting
- 30<sup>th</sup> April Gen Meeting

.....  
4th Round of Club Championship

Saturday and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> April at  
Barkers Creek  
Alan Chisholm leads with a .852kg  
brown



### April 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Jim Baumgartel is coming to our club  
with his collection of fishing gear and  
clothing at great rates.  
6pm start – BBQ tea

.....  
Fly Casting

Commencing Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April at  
the pool.



### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2015

Club trip to Goulburn Valley Fly  
Fishers – fishing their private  
ponds.

Cost \$50 per head – includes lunch

For catering purposes:  
Numbers needed asap



#### **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 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015**  
**At Brennan Park Clubrooms**

The Secretary opened the meeting at 7:40pm.

**Present:** A. Chisholm, J. Willey, G. Hellsten, S. Charles, T. Charles and D. Keegan.

**Apologies:** L. Crimeen, A. Choat, R. Garlick, A. Jacobs, J. Singe and R. Booth.

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

Moved: T. Charles 2<sup>nd</sup>; G. Hellsten **Carried**

**Business Arising:** To be dealt with in general business.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer gave a detailed report of the club's finances.

Moved: T. Charles 2<sup>nd</sup>; S. Charles **Carried**

**Correspondence:**

1. Various club newsletters; and
2. Bank statement.

**General Business:**

1. The next round of the club championship will be the 21/22 March.
2. The trip to the Goulburn Valley Fly Fishing Centre is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Cost will be \$50, Damian Keegan is the co-ordinator.
3. Jim Baumgartel will be visiting the club on the 30<sup>th</sup> April. He has a wide range of fly fishing items for sale. This will be a 6:30pm start.
4. Clean Up Australia Day was conducted on Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> March at Barkers Creek Reservoir. There were 13 club members in attendance. There was less rubbish this year. Thank you to all who assisted.
5. The club is required to have a qualified Level 2 First Aid person in attendance during casting at the pool. The Bendigo Woodturners will be conducting their three yearly update during July. It was moved by Greg Hellsten and seconded by Tom Charles that the club subsidise any member who wishes to gain this certificate by \$50. Carried.
6. It was moved by Tom Charles and seconded by Al Chisholm that the club pay the annual insurance for 29 members at \$8.00 per member. Carried.
7. The last round of the Club Championship may be moved depending on the outcome of this months results.
8. Five members will be representing the club at the Ballarat two Fly at the end of the month.
9. The club is looking for interested members who would like to travel to New Zealand for a fly fishing trip in 2016. Any member interested contact Jeff Willey.
10. Greg Hellsten is working on a report for the Arthur Rylah Institute.

There being no further business the Secretary closed the meeting at 8:20PM.

Jeff Willey  
Sec

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

At the start of the month we once again were involved in the clean up day at Barkers Reservoir. Twelve members turned up for the afternoon then headed in all directions to ensure all rubbish collected from the area. In the end there was about 5 bags of rubbish removed with cans and bottles being the most common items. As usual there was the odd bit of 'rubbish' that would have you wondering why it would be where it was, other pieces are just pure laziness. I do believe that these days that we have there go a long way to ensure a sustainable environment for all habitat within the confines of Barkers Res.

The fishing locally has seemed to be a bit quiet but I stand to be corrected and am sure that Steve has it all covered in his piece with in this newsletter. While I'm talking about fishing reports I think it is prudent to thank Steve and congratulate him for the pieces he has been writing for the Bendigo Weekly. For those that aren't aware Steve writes a piece each month for the Bendigo Weekly. The Weekly reaches a large population within our area and his column is a positive reflection on the club. I ask that you support him by supplying him information on any of your outings.

Once again I was able to head over to the Goulburn River with Steve a couple of weeks ago. Unfortunately the Goulburn wasn't as active as in previous trips. So decision was made to duck across to the Rubicon for some small water action. The Rubicon didn't let us down. I even managed to tick a Brook Trout of my list. I must thank Steve for this one. It was in his pool that he was fishing but as he was half way along he spotted a nice brookie that was feeding just out from him. If he had moved he would have spooked it, so being the gentleman he is he called me to have a go. The first cast drifted slightly to the left of him with a cursory glance. The second cast saw him come up from the bottom to take the dry and I was onto my first brookie.

A quick look on Facebook this morning and again I see a successful trip by Steve and Leon. If you haven't hit the smaller streams but would like to let me know, Im always looking at going over for a day trip and happy to introduce you to the small water.

Don't forget Jim from Flyfinz is attending the April meeting with all his gear.

Damian

March'15 2015

# Fishing Report

## Goulburn River

Hoping for a repeat of last month's backwater and edge fishing on the Goulburn Damian and I headed back to Alexandra in mid-March. Unfortunately it seemed like the willow grubs had come to an end and with a significantly lower water level, the backwaters were perhaps getting too shallow to hold decent fish. We decided to try our luck on the Rubicon...

## Rubicon River

We stopped at the power station and fished the pocket-water upstream of there. It was a fairly low flow with more rock-hopping than wading required. It was a beautiful, sunny afternoon and I had success with caddis patterns, landing three beautiful browns. The fish were less common than last I was up this way, but they were all of very good size for the small waters. Damian persisted with a hopper pattern and had a few misses due to trout striking exactly when his fly drifted behind boulders and out of sight! He finally picked up a nice brown and then managed the catch of the day.



I'd worked my way up into the tail of a rare large, deep pool when I noticed a movement in the shadow of a boulder just in front of me. I froze and watched until I was sure, and yes it was a very decent trout for these waters! I realised I was so close I would just spook the fish if I moved, so with just a slow turn of the head I called Damian up from behind. I talked him through where the trout was lying but had no idea if he'd come up as he was right down on the bottom. The first cast was on line but right on top of the trout! I thought it's

sudden movement was trout spooked, game over, but no he drifted slightly downstream and came up for a close look before turning off at the last minute. Getting my first good look at him I could see we were stalking a brook trout!  
I described where the trout was now lying and Damian's second cast was on the money; up he came and this time confidently sipped the hopper from the surface, and he was on! It was a really satisfying catch for both of us.



## Rubicon Part 2

A week later and having had some rain in the meantime, the Rubi was up and flowing swift and clear! This time Leon and I fished the section downstream of the power station and had a great morning session. We both managed a hat-trick of species with browns, rainbows and brookies in the net. Whilst the browns were of a typical stream size the rainbows surprised us with their size and fantastic fighting condition! The biggest rainbow would have been over a pound and the brookies could have pushed a pound and a half!

The afternoon session we fished upstream of the power station and what a difference a week and a bit of rain makes! It felt like a different stream with the higher water levels and faster flow. There was a lot more fishable water and whilst the catch rate was similar to the previous week, there was a lot more work in just staying on our feet whilst trying to manage short drag-free drifts. We were successful with stimulators, caddis and Leon got a few on nymphs as well.

All fish were released to fight again another day.







Steve Charles