



# Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

Postal Address: PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

## Newsletter - November 2024

### Coming Up

#### Next General Meeting:

7:30pm 6th November 2024

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

#### Next Committee Meeting:

7:00pm 13th November 2024

1-3 Chant Street,

East Launceston

### Members Night

Due to a work commitment there is no Guest Speaker for this meeting. Members can share their secrets of the locations and flies used to catch the elusive trout.

### Next Club Outings:

Pine Tier Lagoon - 22 - 24th November (See page 2)

Penstock Lagoon "One Fly" - 14th December (See page 2)

Little Pine Lagoon "Pine Plunder" - 11th January (See page 2)

# Club Outings

**Unless noted the Contact for all Club Outings is**

**Graeme Frankcombe (0458 421 909) [graemef59@bigpond.com](mailto:graemef59@bigpond.com)**

**November: 22nd —24th Pine Tier Lagoon** (Details in last Newsletter)

**December: 14th Penstock Lagoon “One Fly” (RSVP 04/12/2024)**

- Assemble at Koongara at 9:30am for an Egg ‘N’ Bacon breakfast.
- Fish from 10:30 — 4:30pm.
- Return to shack for reviews and presentation.

**January: 14th Little Pine Lagoon “Pine Plunder”**

- 9:00am Assemble at shack; Fish until 5:30pm.
- Return to shack for reviews and presentation.
- Members are encouraged to bring their guests.

**January: 26th Little Pine Lagoon “Cane Day” (RSVP 17/01/2025)**

- 9:30am Register at FFCT shack; Fish from 10:00 — 4:30pm.
- Return to shack for supplied BBQ and presentation.
- An entry charge of \$20.
- All proceeds for “Prostate Cancer Research”
- Contact Chris Crawford - [clcrawford@netspace.net.au](mailto:clcrawford@netspace.net.au)



## Fly Line Leader

The fly-fishing leader and tippet are what provides a nearly invisible transition from the fly line to the fly. The fly-fishing leader and tippet come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes, materials, and even colours. The first main purpose of the leader and tippet is to connect your fly line to the flies that you are trying to present to the fish. The second main purpose of the leader and tippet is to complete the transfer of energy from the fly line to the fly so that your line rolls over and straightens itself out in a relatively straight line.

Leader:

The leader is the material that is connected to the end of your fly line. There are 3 different types of monofilament leaders, and I have deliberately omitted the braided leaders and twisted mono leaders.

(a) Level Leaders: A length of monofilament that is the same strength diameter from fly line to tippet. This works well with the wind behind it but will collapse when casting into it.

(b) Tapered Leader:

- Knotless: A commercially made monofilament of varied length to suit the type of fishing and conditions. It is best to find one with a butt diameter of almost  $\frac{2}{3}$  the thickness of the fly line tip. Continuous changing of flies reduces the tippet length which means you will need to add a section of tippet material to suit. Also, an opportunity to add a tippet ring.
- Knotted: This is one that is tied by yourself with monofilaments of varied diameters based on several formulae – such as Gibson, Ritz, Orvis or Borger. All formulae can be found online.

In my early years I adopted the Ritz leader formula and now use the easier Gibson one. This is created by using the simple formula of  $\frac{1}{3}$  butt,  $\frac{1}{3}$  taper and  $\frac{1}{3}$  tippet the leader length can be whatever you desire., depending on conditions and water fished. The end of the butt must still be  $\frac{2}{3}$  the thickness of the fly line tip. The taper section will also be divided into 3 equal sections. The butt and taper section are best made with a stiff leader material as they handle windy conditions better than the more supple materials. If the tippet section is made with a more supple material, it better balances the leader and provides a more delicate presentation of the dry fly.

Leader Materials:

There are 2 main types of materials used for leader and tippet – monofilament and fluorocar-

bon. Monofilament has more stretch and cheaper than fluorocarbon and it also floats on the water easier. Fluorocarbon has more sensitivity and stronger hooksets. It also sinks faster in the water, more durable, abrasion resistant and near invisible to the fish. However, fluorocarbon is more susceptible to your knots breaking and requires proper lubrication when tying your knots. I use the monofilament for the butt and taper sections and fluorocarbon for the tippet section.

The 'X' system:

When buying a spool of tippet material or a manufactured tapered leader each is designated with an 'X' rating. The typical range is from 03X down to 8X, with 03X being the thickest and strongest and 8X being the thinnest and lightest. An easy way to determine what 'X' rating to use is to divide the size of fly used by 3 to yield the approximate tippet size. That is if you are using a size 12 fly when divided by 3 yields 4, that is a 4X tippet size. Preferential decisions occur when the resultant figure does not yield a proper result. That is a size 14 hook divided by 3 gives 4.6667 which could be a 4X or 5X.

The basic chart is listed below and only between 1X to 8X.

| X rating | Diameter        | Breaking Strain | Hook Size  |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1X       | 0.010" (0.25mm) | 9 - 12lb        | 4, 6, 8    |
| 2X       | 0.009" (0.23mm) | 7 - 9lb         | 6, 8, 10   |
| 3X       | 0.008" (0.20mm) | 6 - 7lb         | 10, 12, 14 |
| 4X       | 0.007" (0.18mm) | 4 - 5lb         | 12, 14, 16 |
| 5X       | 0.006" (0.15mm) | 4lb             | 14, 16, 18 |
| 6X       | 0.005" (0.13mm) | 3lb             | 16, 18, 20 |
| 7X       | 0.004" (0.10mm) | 2lb             | 20, 22, 24 |
| 8X       | 0.003" (0.08mm) | 1lb             | 22, 24, 26 |

### **Important Notice**

The "winterproofing" time at Noonamena has now ended, the water system is now operating as normal. Please still adhere to the posted notices

## President's Report

Hello members.

It has not been a very good start to the season, for me anyway, the weather seems to turn bad every time there is an opportunity to go for a fish, hopefully this is going to improve in the near future. I have not heard any good reports from any waters. Recently I was told that there are some duns starting to appear on Four Springs, mostly later in the afternoon with a few fish starting to rise to them.



The club has recently purchased six new mattresses for Noonamena, these are the same as the ones at Koongara. A big thank you to Graeme Frankcombe for sourcing, transporting and fitting the mattresses, the old mattresses will be taken to the Miena transfer station for disposal in due course.

At our November meeting we were going to have Ron Thresher who has written a book on Mayflies as guest speaker, unfortunately Ron is unable to attend as he is off studying Mayflies. He is now penciled in for April next year. Instead of a guest speaker members can fill us in on their fishing outings whether they were good or bad. We would also like to hear more suggestions for club outings and events, so put your thinking caps on.

Recently we have received the resignation of one committee member, this leaves the committee one member short.

It would be greatly appreciated if one of the members could put their hand up to fill that position.

The December meeting is going to be a trivia / quiz night. There will be some nibbles and refreshments available.

Some of the trivia topics may or may not be about Trout in Tasmania, the history of some waters, the club and fishing in general.

Martin Hingston - President FFCT.

# The Grey Duster

## Background:

The **Grey Duster fly** is a classic dry fly pattern that has been a favourite among fly anglers for decades. I first became aware of it when fishing with Peter Hazelwood. He used it regularly on Arthurs Lake.

Originally designed as a stillwater midge imitation but has proven to be highly effective for catching trout and grayling in various waters, especially in Wales.

The fly is known for its simplicity and effectiveness. It typically features a body made from rabbit underfur, a hackle from a badger cock feather, and sometimes a tail made from badger cock fibres.

This fly has a long history of success on rivers like the Dee, Eden, Ribble, and Wharfe, and it continues to be a go-to pattern for many anglers. Its ability to imitate midges and other small insects makes it a versatile choice for various fishing conditions. Using different sizes it can be fished throughout the entire season.

The Grey Duster can be tied in different styles, including the classic and parachute versions, each with slight variations in tying techniques.

## The Tie

|        |                                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Hook   | 'Hends' BL354 #8 - #14               |
| Thread | Grey or Black                        |
| Tail   | (Optional) Badger cock hackle fibres |
| Body   | Dubbed grey rabbit underfur          |
| Hackle | Badger cock saddle feather           |



## Process

1. Set the hook in the vice and lay down a bed of thread.
2. Tie in the tail (shank length) 4 or 5 fibres.
3. Dub on a tapered body – stopping 1/3 the length from where the thread started.
4. Select a feather that has fibres 1.5x the length of the hook gape.
5. Strip off some base fibres to provide a clean tie-in point.
6. Tie in the hackle with the glossy side facing upwards and 45 degrees to the hook shank.
7. Wind the hackle forward towards the hook eye and secure with the thread.

8. Clip off the waste hackle and form the head with thread.
9. Whip finish and varnish.



*Badger cock saddle feathers*

*This fly appeared in the "Fly of the Month" archive by and with thanks to Alan Taylor for the tying instructions of his fly.*



At the **Great Lake Tie-In** members Terry Horan (L) and Peter Rasmussen sharing their tying skills with 2 keen participants.



Liam, who tied his first ever fly. A blue damselfly fly (Terry's pattern).

He did a great job. He also tied a very good western lakes black spinner that he plans to use on the Christy's Creek system in December.

## Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Chant Street on Wednesday 2nd of October 2024

**MEETING OPENED: 7:30pm.**

### **Welcome:**

President Martin Hingston welcomed the 32 members; guest speaker Gary France and 8 Guests (includes members from QFFC & VDFFC) to this meeting. He recommended that all mobile devices be turned off or placed on to silent.

### **Apologies:**

Gary & Katie Baird, Marcus Rae, Jimmy Ellenberger, Annie Skarratt, Jesse Campling, Stephen Hill, James Doherty, George Dale, Norm King, Don Sweatman, Jack Barker

### **Names of Guests:**

Matthew Stagg, Clancy Stagg, Richard Fela,

### **Guest Speaker:**

The President introduced Gary France (AAT's Chair) to the group. His presentation will be on the insect study on shallow waters particularly Penstock Lagoon.

Prior to his presentation Gary outlined the role that AAT has within the Tasmanian fishery and was pleased to announce that they have received more funding. The webcams that were once funded by anglers are now free to the public.

With assistance from scientific experts, Hydro Tas, IFS and MAST a comprehensive study was done at Penstock Lagoon. This includes the sampling of macroinvertebrates, water testing for sediments and pollution, and the impact of boating in shallow waters.

They concluded that the causes here are due to global climate change, habitat degradation, ecological stressors and predation.

Their recommendations are to improve the marking of the boating corridor, extend the 'no boating area' and manipulate the water levels during summer. They will also undertake further studies using the last data as a baseline.

Following a series of questions, the President along with the members present thanked Gary for his presentation.

### **Appreciation:**

The President expressed the Club's appreciation to:



## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

- Graeme Frankcombe for sourcing, transporting and installing the new mattresses for the lower bunks at Noonamena.
- Keith Blewett for sourcing and installing the new gas pipe at Noonamena.
- John Quarry for updating the Club trophies.
- Gary France for donating a book for the Club library.

### **Minutes of last meeting:**

The Secretary moved that the minutes, that appeared in the last newsletter was a representative record of that meeting, seconded by **David Swallow – and carried unanimously.**

### **Matters arising:**

Nil

### **Correspondence (since last meeting):**

#### Inwards:

1. Newsletters – (email) TFTC, SAFFA, Coffs Coast FFC, GFFC.
2. Tim Munro (AAT) – (email) Report on insect study in shallow waters – Penstock Lagoon.
3. George Dale – (email) Resignation from committee.
4. Dan Dempsey – (email) Accepting role as guest speaker in May.
5. Jules Stevens – (email) Accepting role as guest speaker in April.
6. InTas – (email) Renewal of Club insurance.

#### Outwards:

1. Jules Stevens – (email) Invitation as Guest speaker in April.
2. Dan Dempsey – (email) Invitation as Guest speaker in May.

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence was accepted; and outward was approved, seconded by **John Quarry – and carried unanimously.**

### **Matters arising:**

*Inwards 6* – will be discussed in General Business.

## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Expenses: \$ 181.83 (\$74.80 CBOS, \$35 Gas)

Income: \$ 410.45 (\$105 shack, \$210 Subs)

CBA: \$ [REDACTED]

Petty Cash: \$ 100.00

Cash Book: \$ [REDACTED]

The Treasurer, John Quarry moved the Treasurer's report for acceptance, seconded by **Graeme Frankcombe – and carried unanimously.**

### **Matters arising:**

Nil

### **General Business:**

#### **Chairman's Lead:**

#### **Club Insurance:**

The President explained to the members that because the insurance premium for this year is \$7250 which is above the minimum limit for the committee. The members are needed to approve the payment.

Discussion:

The Club to review the rates for membership and shack rental to cover the increased costs.

- The committee decided that both rates will remain as is but can be assessed later in the year.

The Club should investigate other companies for insurance cover.

- This is done by an insurance broker that has provided the best deal for us. Some companies refuse to quote.

Motion:

*Chris Crawford moved the motion that the Club accept the listed invoice and approve it for payment, seconded by **Peter Rae – and carried unanimously.***

#### **New Members:**

## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

The President along with the members present welcomed our newest member Matthew Stagg (#500) to the Club.

### Just some reminders for the members:

Martin reminded the members:

- of the 'fly bowl' which provides good value of flies at \$1 each.
- To send photos and /or articles of outings to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

### **Club Outings: (on whiteboard)**

Members heading out on an excursion may also place their information on the white board.

October - **20<sup>th</sup>** Isle of Shalom "COTA" class

- We may need some assistance on the day depending on how many starters there are.

November - **22<sup>nd</sup>** – **24<sup>th</sup>** Pine Tier Lagoon

- This could be a 1-, 2- or 3-day event and either camping on site, or staying at any of the Club shacks.

December - **14<sup>th</sup>** Penstock "One Fly"

- A good day's fishing will follow a breakfast feed of bacon 'n' eggs.

January - **11<sup>th</sup>** Little Pine 'Pine Plunder'

- Members that attend are to bring their own lunch.

**26<sup>th</sup>** Little Pine 'Cane Day'

- Chris Crawford is the contact for this event.

February – Mid-Week outing in the Botsford area

- Mid-Week outing in the Botsford area (could be day or night event)
- Saltwater fishing at St Helens (Michael Burgess to provide more information)

Graeme Frankcombe is the contact and coordinator for all Club fishing outings.

### **Fly Casting:**

Fly casting at Grindelwald – coordinator Don Cameron

## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

The next outing is Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> as well as a barbeque.

Contact Don to confirm the all outings.

### **Club Rooms:**

Thanks to the volunteers that assisted in the preparation of the room and clean-up of the kitchen area.

### **CLUB SHACKS & REMINDERS:**

The President reminded the members that:

- If you are a regular visitor to any of the shacks and notice that some consumables are running low – remember to replace them the next time you visit. And to discard any items that are 'out of date'.
- Report any faults or shack issues to the shack warden or Club committee.
- Noonamena is still winter proofed so follow the posted signs.
- We now have some small GI tanks to keep the wood dry. Make sure that you replenish the supplies for the next person.
- Thanks to Graeme the Noonamena all lower bunks now have new mattresses. The old ones are stored on the top bunks awaiting removal.
- There is a position available on the committee now with the resignation of George Dale. Interested members are to contact the Secretary.

### **Other General Business:**

Nil

### **Fishing Reports:**

With the weather a little more settled our members have ventured out to their favourite waters. Four Springs has resulted in some good catches for some. There are duns and red spinners present and an occasional rise, but don't get excited yet. Using weighted black nymphs on a sinking line yields the best results, although it also depends on how you work the flies.

Other waters visited are Arthurs, Little Lake (full), Penstock and Great Lake. With the water in Great Lake rising the best times to fish this is at 'first and last light' of the day when the fish patrol the shallows.

The only river mentioned tonight was the Derwent where sea runners were the tar-

## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

get fish.

### **Club Raffles:**

Gary France drew the night's raffle which was won by Keith Blewett.

### **Next Meeting:**

November – Ron Thresher

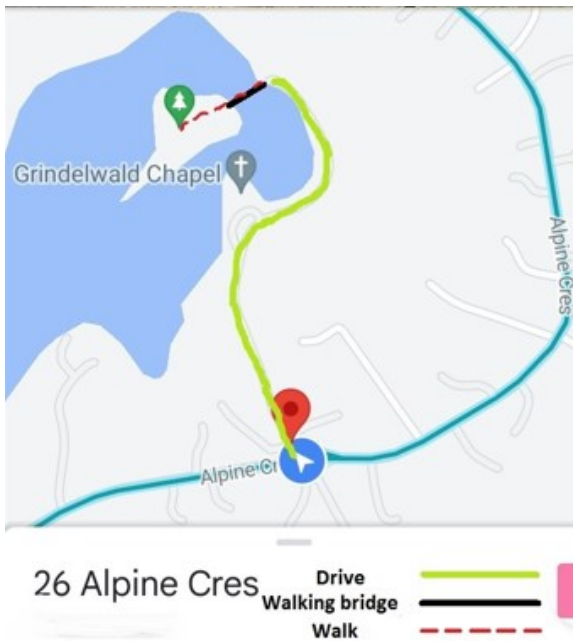
**Meeting Closed: 9:10pm.**



Guest Speaker Gary France (R) with President Martin Hingston



New Member Matthew Stagg (R) with President Martin



Access to the property of  
26 A Alpine Crescent .



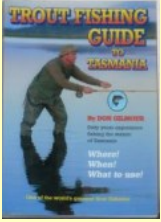
Gate to enter the property of  
26 A Alpine Crescent.

**Grindelwald Fly Casting and Social Outings - Confirm Dates with Don**

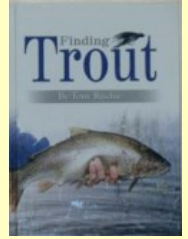
- ◆ 10:00am - 12:00pm
- ◆ Confirm all dates with the coordinator.

Coordinator Don Cameron (ph. 0409 636 273).

## Club Library



Members are reminded to take full advantage of our comprehensive selection of books and DVD's that are available in the library.



If you are intending to visit an unknown water, or after a particular fly pattern, or just researching our Club history you will find the answer there.

**For Booking of the Club Shacks go to our website**

[www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au/uncategorized/booking-a-shack/](http://www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au/uncategorized/booking-a-shack/)

**Remember booking is made only by a phone call**



**Noonamena**



**Koongara**

**Members** please check your accounts with **Treasurer - John Quarry**

at: [john.r.quarry47@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.quarry47@gmail.com)

**Payments and club banking Details**

**Account: The Fly-Fishers Club of Tasmania Inc**

**BSB: 067-603; ACC: 1052 0644**

**Please ensure that your surname & what the payment is for is included**

# The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc.

Founded 17th August 1955

**Postal Address:** PO Box 460, Launceston 7250

**Website:** [www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au](http://www.flyfisherscluboftasmania.org.au)



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Mr. Bill Greensmith

**Librarian:**

Mr. Jimmy Ellenberger

**Facebook Administrator:**

Mr. Jack Barker

**Club Outings Coordinitor:**

Mr. Graeme Frankcombe - 0458 421 909

**Senior Vice President:**

Mr. Peter Berne

**Vice President:**

Mr. David Swallow

**Committee:**

Mr. Graeme Frankcombe

Mr. Peter Ray

Mr. Andrew Wood

Mr. Bill Greensmith

Mr. Keith Blewett

