

THE EVENING RISE

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PRESIDENTS LINE

Greetings fellow fly flickers.

Well Christmas has been and gone. I hope Santa was kind to you and filled your fishing bag with all the goodies that make a fly fisher happy.

Just back from a week in Tassie where a group of members had a great time even if the weather put a dampener on the fishing. High temperatures and winds had tempers rising not fish! Water temperatures on average 20°—22° does not make for good fishing. Roll on a change in the weather and some rain.

Hope to see you on the water somewhere some time soon.

Regards,

Russ Johnson

“Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught” anon



CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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CLUB REMINDERS

FLY TYING

2014 Dates & Venue to be advised

COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 13th February @ Wranglers Club. 6.30 pm

CASTING DAY

Sunday 16th February @ Devilbend. 10.30 am

CLUB TRIP

14th—16th March @ King River Region

CLUB MEETING

Thursday 27th February @ Wranglers. 7.00pm

AT THE MEETING

Members Xmas Fishing & Tassie 2014 reports

Presentation by Clinton from OznBeyond sport fishing on inshore saltwater sight fly fishing @ Hinchinbrook Island

FOR YOUR DIARIES

March Club Trip to King River Region

SHOT OF THE MONTH

Sandy's Tassie catch

Keep fishin'! Take a friend!

JOKE OF THE MONTH

An Irish priest loved to fly fish, it was an obsession of his. So far this year the weather had been so bad that he hadn't had a chance to get his beloved waders on and his favourite flies out of their box. Strangely though, every Sunday the weather had been good, but of course Sunday is the day he has to go to work. The weather forecast was good again for the coming Sunday so he called a fellow priest claiming to have lost his voice and be in bed with the flu. He asked him to take over his sermon. The fly fishing priest drove fifty miles to a river so that no one would recognise him.

An angel up in Heaven was keeping watch and saw what the priest was doing. He told God who agreed that he would do something about it.

With the first cast of his line a huge fish mouth gulped down the fly. For over an hour the priest ran up and down the river bank fighting the fish. At the end when he finally landed the monster size fish it turned out to be a world record brown trout.

Confused, the angel asked God, 'Why did you let him catch that huge fish? I thought you were going to teach him a lesson.' God replied 'I did. Who do you think he's going to tell?'

MARCH MEETING GUEST SPEAKER



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website is under construction, however, please call for further information and pricing.

Jim Baumgurtel from *Flyfinz Tackle and Books* will be attending our March meeting.

Jim carries a wide range of unusual and different fly fishing supplies.

His range will especially interest all fly tiers as it includes a wide variety of materials.

MERRIJIG END OF YEAR TRIP

Another great weekend was held on the weekend November 22nd/24th at Merrijig fishing the Delatite and Howqua Rivers.

The fishing was “hard” with very few catches in any locations but the weather and conditions were superb and provided a great opportunity for both new and inexperienced members to practice and improve their techniques in stream fishing.



Accommodation was as usual at Victoria Police Alpine Club and members enjoyed the pleasant views and outlook over convivial drinks at the end of each day.

Regrettably the numbers were down a little at this now annual event with a lot of the regulars unable to attend at the last minute—nevertheless we look forward to the 2014 trip in November.



THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

Hinchinbrook Island is the gateway to Australia's tropical north fly fishing, home to Australian Fly Fishing Outfitters, a saltwater fly fishing guiding operation that specializes in sight and flats fly fishing the waters around the country's largest Island National Park. The area is renowned for its beauty and rugged tropical landscapes, regarded as one of the finest fly fishing destinations in the country. Covering such a large area the fly fishing opportunities are varied and endless. The stunning mountain peaks are not only visually spectacular they also act as a natural barrier giving fly anglers always somewhere to fish out of the wind.



The inside of the island is a maze of huge estuary systems, mudflats and mangrove creeks running the length of some 50 kilometers of prime fishing waters, for the area's prime target is the mighty barramundi. Whilst chasing barramundi anglers also have the chance to catch a range of other species such as a mangrove jack, threadfin salmon, blue salmon, grunter and many more.

Moving inside the channel the sand flats here will give you the opportunity to sight cast to saltwater fly fishing most sought after species the Australian permit or snubnose dart. These flats inside the channel are without a doubt the finest locations in the country to target these *"Prince of the Flats"*. The crystal clear sand flats will also give you the chance to cast to big queenfish, giant trevally, cobia and golden trevally. The front of the Island has some wonderful inshore blue water opportunities for species such as tuna and mackerel.

Your guide Clinton Isaac runs a purpose built skiff boat for fly fishing. You will be fishing with a professional fly guide who is also enthusiastic and understanding. All trips are customized to the angler's desires. The season runs from March to December. All trips are booked around prime tides, giving anglers the best fishing opportunity possible.



Guests stay in a comfortable fishing lodge called the Mudbrick Manor, only a short drive to the boat ramp. Hinchinbrook Island is located near the small coastal town of Cardwell, 2hrs south of Cairns. Everyone from the most experienced fly angler wanting to refine the skills to beginners new to the sport a welcome to fish with me.

SHOT OF THE MONTH



The “grandaddy” of Lake Kaye—caught by Sandy—Tassie 2014

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TASSIE 2014 REPORT

An enthusiastic team of nine members assembled on the “Spirit of Tasmania” for the annual club trip to the Central Highlands Lakes in Tasmania. Spirits were as usual high in anticipation of the week ahead and after a smooth crossing the team rendezvoused in Deloraine for the purchase of fresh supplies. Weather was warm, sunny and windy and this was unfortunately indicative of the conditions for the entire week—great if you were touring but certainly not ideal for fishing!

After arrival at Tiger Hut and settling into the familiar surroundings teams went off to try their luck.

The first fish of the trip was caught by Alf at Lake Botsworth and others had success in the hard wading Lake Kay.

An intrepid team of Andrew, George and Sandy had resolved before the trip to walk into Lake Fergus, overnight camp and fish, and return the next day. The weather conditions seemed best on the Sunday/Monday as overnight temperatures were to remain warm and ideal for camping out. Unfortunately this meant the daytime temperatures were warm and hence the walk in proved somewhat hot and tiring. Nevertheless within minutes of arriving George caught the first fish and anticipation was high for a great catch. This did not turn out to be the case but all three participants in the “*Broke(n)back*” experience rated Lake Fergus a great prospect.



The first fish taken at Lake Fergus



Float tube brigade at Little Pine Lagoon

The remainder of the week saw a variety of lakes fished—wading, off the bank, float tubing and boating—with varying success.

Overall, the week on the lakes resulted in a total of 26 fish (most caught at Lake Kay) and only three members of the team fishless.

Next year’s trip has been booked—this time a month later—trying for some cooler weather and possibly better fishing conditions.



An injured fish from Lake Kay—cormorant perhaps?



Andrew with a nice fish from Lake Fergus

A FISHING APP FOR YOUR SMARTPHONE

Have you downloaded this yet?

The Recreational Fishing Application brings the popular *Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide* to iPhone and Android.

The first of its kind in Australia, the **free application** features colour illustrations of more than 65 species found in Victoria's waterways.

Anglers can identify their catch and confirm **size and bag limits**, and access information on permitted equipment and closed seasons.



There is also a **marine park boundary locator**, which uses a smart phone's internal GPS to determine whether the user is in, or approaching, a marine park or sanctuary.

The application allows anglers to **buy a recreational fishing licence online**. For those who would prefer to visit a shop, the GPS locator will find the closest outlets that sell licenses, bait and tackle.

Anglers can use the application to connect to Fisheries Victoria's **illegal fishing reporting line (13FISH)**, **DEPI's Customer Service Centre** and the **Water Police** too.

Please email your suggestions for the further development of the application to:

fishingapp.feedback@dpi.vic.gov.au



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