THE EVENING RISE

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MPFF Mission Statement

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly fishing in all its aspects.

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly tying.

To promote, foster and encourage the sport of fly casting.

To increase the pleasure derived by members from their sport by social intercourse, interchange of ideas and by collective or mutually assistive action generally.

To promote and assist in the stocking with trout and other sporting fish, of local and other waters.

To foster and promote the conservation of the environment on which the sport of fly fishing is practised and to assist scientific and practical research in all matters pertaining to the sport.

To do all such other things that are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of these purposes and for the exercise of the power of the club.

PRESIDENTS LINE

Welcome members to our February newsletter.

You can tell that the day isn't going to be that crash hot when you wake up to rain. Hang on? That wasn't in the forecast! That's meant to be this afternoon. And then you catch every red light going to the casting day at Devilbend.

As I sit here waiting for the other two that said they were coming to arrive, thought I'd do something constructive and write something for the newsletter.

Besides, I can go home now, I've got the "fly" in the ring three times in a row.

First & foremost, Peter Cattermole had some pretty serious unexpected surgery just over a week ago. He is recovering nicely. I wish him a speedy recovery & look forward to seeing him again soon.

Personally, Tassie was a bit of a bust this year. With Peter laid up and having an empty seat in the chariot, in stepped Russ Johnson for six days. (Thanks Russ. Good to have you on board, as always). The weather was bright and sunny more often than not but, the wind? The wind most days blew its guts out! Trying to find somewhere on an open lake shore anywhere in Tassie really tested the brain.

Bob's boat broke before going, so he and Ian had to walk the bank too. Never even got my float tube out of the car either. How many times did we stand on the wall at Penstock casting to rising fish that were just out of range and bemoan the fact, "If only Bob had his boat"?

Only worry about what you have control over Graeme! Move to Plan B. I did manage to polaroid fish in Botsford & Carters Lake when the weather was nice. That's what gets my blood pumping. Being able to see fish and cast to them, that's where it's at. I think I pricked one in Botsford but, I wouldn't bet my house on it.

The good news is that we caught up with George & Carol Dale (past members), at Waddamana for "coffee and cake" then watched George hook and land fish in Penstock that afternoon (nice one George). Just proves that the more time you spend on the water in Tassie, the more successful you can be. If you're interested in going next February, you'd better get in and book your place on the Spirit, and let me know so we can ensure accommodation is booked.

Elsewhere on the scene Russ Johnson has a "casting day" booked with Toorak College for March the 15th & 16th. Both sessions are for an hour and a half each. If anyone can assist who has a working with a current children's card, it would be appreciated.

Next month, we have our annual trip to Big River on the 20th, 21st, 22nd March. $40 per night. Plenty of beds so, keep it in mind. This is always a good trip.

No guest speaker as such, for next Thursday's meeting. Looking forward to hearing all your stories of how successful (or not), your fishing has been since November.

Looking for ideas too on what you want from the club so we can make it happen if we can.

See you then. Graeme

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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CLUB REMINDERS

COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday March 12th - 6.30 pm

CLUB MEETING

February 26th - 7.30 pm Leawarra House - 200 Beach Street Frankston

AT THE MEETING

Fishing Reports since last meeting

Upcoming events

FOR YOUR DIARIES

Friday/Sunday 20/22nd March

Big River Club Trip - $40 / night

EVENT CALENDAR

All these events are subject to ratification at Club Meeting and confirmation of dates

March	***Big River***
April	***Howqua***
May	***Noojee***
June	***Saltwater @ Blairgowrie***
July	***One Fly @ Karkarook***
August	***Bullen Merri***
September	***Carp Day***
October	***Wastell Trophy***
November	***Howqua***
December	***Break-up @ Devilbend***

MARCH CLUB TRIP - BIG RIVER

A return to a popular venue for the March Club Trip. Fish the variety of water around the camp. To get there, follow the Maroondah Highway to Taggerty, turn-off to the right onto Taggerty-Thornton Rd and continue through to Thornton. Turn right onto the Goulburn Valley Highway, then right again onto Eildon-Jamieson Rd - from here the camp is approx. 30 mins drive at the first Big River bridge.

Accommodation is bunkhouse style with a large equipped kitchen and there is also a large patio and BBQ area.

The large dining area and fireplace is a great venue for a get together drink and socialising at the end of each day.

***Please note the increased cost $40/ head / night**. BYO Food, drink, bedding.*

Potential release of carp control virus into waterways delayed until 2028

Research on a carp herpes virus is not expected to be finished for at least another two years, a decade after the virus was initially planned to be released. The virus, Cyprinid herpesvirus-3, is being explored under the National Carp Control Plan (NCCP) as a biocontrol method for the invasive freshwater pest. The plan was introduced in 2016, with a focus on research into the potential impacts of the disease on the environment and native fish.

Carp were introduced into Australian waterways in the mid-1800s and can make up as much as 90 per cent of an infested river's organic material.

Peter Teakle is a recreational fisher and became part of the National Carp Task Force that began researching if a virus could be used.

"They're nothing but mobile sludge pumps," he said.

The virus was expected to be ready for release by 2018 if it was deemed safe.

However, when the plan was handed to then-federal agriculture minister Murray Watt in late 2022, it identified additional research was needed.

Now, the research is not expected to be completed until 2028, when all state, territory and federal agriculture ministers will make a final decision on the virus's release.

The plan is Australia's most expensive and largest biological control agent investigation, with 11 institutions involved and $10.4 million allocated initially, and a further $3 million allocated in 2024.

Carp can grow up to 15kg and measure up to 80cm, but some have been found to exceed 1.2 metres. *(ABC)*

Mr Teakle said he was surprised it had still not been resolved, but a virus should remain the focus of the government's investment.

"It's still going to take millions of dollars to get this plan up and running, and it will be ongoing," he said.

"We've tried to go down the track of commercial harvesting, but that's not economical.

"You only need a big flood event, and carp with their reproductive capacity, we're back to square one again."

The NCCP estimated the virus could reduce the average population of carp by 40 to 60 per cent over a 10-year period.

How else can we control it?

Gary Warrick from Barmera, South Australia, disagreed that the virus was the best control method. He is one of 41 fishers in the state with a commercial licence to catch carp. Mr Warrick worries native fish could also be killed by the virus, and dead fish in the water will damage the ecosystem. "I think they should invest more money into other ways of getting [carp] out … I think it's too dangerous to put the virus in," he said. "Once it goes in, it's in there forever.

"No other country in the world has introduced this virus into the waters deliberately."

Mr Warrick said it would be beneficial to expand current control measures of trapping and electro-fishing.

"In Lock One [near Blanchetown SA] where I trap carp, they've actually decreased by a fair bit," he said. "There's been over nearly 1,000 tonnes taken out of that area."

Mr Warrick said more demand for the product would be required before expanding the number of commercial fishing licences. One of his buyers is the Sydney Fish Market, which sold almost 77,000 tonnes of carp last financial year.

A market spokesperson said it was generally purchased as a low-cost protein by the Asian sector, Eastern European and Middle Eastern buyers.

Article sourced from ABC Riverland news

1 Fix the hook in the vise and run the tying thread down the shank from the eye to opposite the barb. Catch in a few fibers of dark brown cock hackle and 2 inches (5cm) of fine, oval, gold tinsel.

2 Wind close turns of thread over the waste ends of the hackle fibers and tinsel to provide an even base for the body. Dub on a pinch of dark brown fur and wind it on to form a slim body.

3 Wind on four turns of the gold tinsel and secure. Select two slips of hen pheasant feathers, taken from opposing wings. Place them together, dull-sides in, so that their tips are level and the feathers curve away from each other.

4 Catch in the hen pheasant wings with a winging loop just in front of the body.

5 Secure the wings with tight thread turns before trimming off the waste ends. Use turns of thread around the wing base to bring the wings upright.

6 Prepare a dark brown cock hackle with fibers twice the length of the hook gape. Catch it in at the wing base, and make three turns behind and two turns in front of the wing. Secure and remove the waste end before casting off.

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