

The Flyer



Official Newsletter Of The



April 2024

The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club April 2024

Table of Contents

Club Executive and Committee 2023-24.....	- 3 -
President's Report.....	- 4 -
Secretary's Report.....	- 5 -
From the Editor	- 6 -
April Meeting.....	- 7 -
Committee Meeting	- 7 -
April Outing.....	- 7 -
Fly Tying Competition	- 8 -
Fly Tying Night.....	- 8 -
Tuesday Casting Group.....	- 8 -
Casting Day	- 9 -
Casting with Hastings Fly Club.....	- 9 -
Learn About Fly Fishing For Trout	- 9 -
Fly Master Awards	- 10 -
Lake St Clair	- 10 -
Calendar Updates	- 10 -
Events Calendar 2024.....	- 11 -
Writing a Fishing Report.....	- 12 -
Fishing Reports.....	- 14 -
Casting Around.....	- 20 -
Mo Tackle Fly Tying.....	- 24 -
Fly Tying.....	- 25 -
Club Shop.....	- 29 -
Hall of Fame	- 30 -
Fly Tying Competition Hall of Fame.....	- 35 -
Our Supporters.....	- 36 -
Membership Fees	- 37 -
Membership Form	- 38 -
Coffs Coast Fly Fishers Fly Master Awards.....	- 40 -

Front Cover: Some people will travel long distances to catch a big rainbow trout. Garry Bennett shows off a 50cm specimen from his now favourite river in New Zealand.

Club Executive and Committee 2023-24



President
Glenn Colquhoun
0409151270



Committee
Doug Urquhart
0458696138



Vice President
Greg Artlett
0427689400



Committee
Murray Robinson
0425277026



Secretary
Anthony Heiser
0402560880



Committee
Jim Wray
0419607770



Treasurer and Public Officer
David Small
0423112902



Committee
Mike Ferris
0428636858



Minute Secretary
Ray Phipps
0412525338



Committee
Tom Trefz
0423676624



Newsletter Editor and Committee
Allan Ekert
0427457725



Committee
Brian Bevan
0409469562



Committee
Brian Mighell
0438586235



President's Report

April 2024

The weather gods are once again playing havoc with our club events with the first two events for 2024 both cancelled. Hopefully Autumn and Winter will bring us some stabilised weather conditions and some cleaner water in our rivers and creeks.

The first week of March, my wife Robyn and I had three days at the Tallebudgera Tourist Park (Rob had to see a specialist at the John Flynn Private Hospital). We stayed in a cabin with a water view and enjoyed the many walking paths that are in the area. Just by chance 😊, I had the opportunity to cast a fly in Tallebudgera Creek.

The first morning I got up early and quickly realised that there were a lot of people out there walking, running, bike riding, swimming and using all sorts of water craft that had also got up at the crack of dawn. Casting a fly amongst all those on the water and the walkers and joggers that were in back casting range was going to be a BIG challenge. It certainly makes you watch your back cast.

That scenario certainly limited the radius that I could direct a fly to but amongst all that I managed to land one GT and drop one (surf candy fly), so I was pretty chuffed with the first two hour session and this was my first landbased GT and Brassie.

Day two and the Trevally were absent along the 500 metre of shoreline I could get accessible casting points to, as not only do you have the close footpaths but a lot of trees also.

I walked up and down that area a dozen times then retreated back to the cabin and joined the throng on the walking paths. Wading is definitely the way to go if you have low tides, but we had early morning highs.

Day three dawned calm and the Trevally were back chasing the prawns. I got lucky with a lot of bust ups close to me and managed to hook and land two Brassies out of a dozen hits on the tiny Jelly Prawn fly. And all this happened within a stone's throw of the cabin.

It was interesting watching Trevally chasing baitfish and prawns in amongst the swimmers and kids in the shallows in the middle of the day ... a bit different to the spooky ones we have to deal with in our home waters. Talking to a few of the local lurecasters, they rarely saw anyone flycasting in their area and were amazed at the action generated by such a tiny fly ... while they couldn't get a hit on their lures. It certainly got a couple of them interested enough to follow up on flyfishing.

*Keep on casting
Glenn*

Secretary's Report



Happy Easter everyone, I hope the Easter Bunny has been generous in your households this year. If you're heading to a favourite fishing spot over the long weekend, let's hope the fishing gods are equally generous.

Personally, I've had a rather slow start to the year fishing wise. But I'm hoping to end my four month trout drought over Easter. If you're up in Ebor over the weekend, don't forget to say hello to Jeff at Ebor Falls Tackle and Outfitters.

If Jeff is not in the shop, he may be out the back doing work on his property. You can buzz him with the doorbell to the right of the door – the far right next to the corner.

Since the last newsletter, our membership has grown to 70. On behalf of the Club, I extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Rodney Dillon, Daniel Bass and Martin Jacobs. I hope you enjoy our newsletter and look forward to seeing some fishing pics on our FB page soon.

Thank you to all our members who post some amazing photos on our FB page. Lately, some of our members have posted some great pics of Murray Cod. As I'm writing this, Glenn's photos from the Club's Ashford Cod Trip are starting to pop up on the FB page.

For those like me who were not able to attend the outing, I understand an outing report will be presented at the April General Meeting. However, I hope this will be followed up by an article in our May Newsletter on how the outing went.

We would also love to read about your fishing encounters and outings. We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. Our members really enjoy reading about fishing trips and anything fly fishing.

If you need some help writing something, you will find my [article](#) further on, setting out some tips and a formula you can use when writing about your fishing trips and outings. If you do get stuck writing your article, drop me or Allan a line and we can help you add the finishing touches.

Finally, the April General Meeting will be preceded by a Committee Meeting at 5.00 pm on 15 April 2024. Can you please email me for any issues or items you wish to raise at the Committee meeting by 8 April 2024.

Anthony

From the Editor



Being Editor means I get to pick and choose what goes in the newsletter. That's not a difficult job as I never have enough stories and articles. To encourage more members to write, our Secretary, Anthony has written an article on how he goes about preparing a story. Anthony has written for his previous club and also for our newsletter so he has a bit of experience in this area. Have a read and see if it might help you to write something. As he said, my job as Editor is to help you polish your article so don't be afraid to submit some rough drafts for me to work on.

If you have submitted a story before, or write reports, you will have noticed I exercise my Editorial privileges quite often. Sometimes I have to make changes to fit the formatting, or my old teaching habits kick in and I do some editing. I hope this doesn't deter you from sending something in as members are always happy to read something not written by me.

I had planned to write a report on my recent trip to New Zealand but despite all the inspiration from Anthony's article I haven't had time. I have included some photos and a few comments but they don't do justice to what was a great trip ... with ups and downs.

The upside was the magnificent scenery and being transported back in time to a world much slower and simpler than life on this side of the ditch.

The downside was getting sick and missing a few days fishing to add to the days that were wiped out by snow and flooded rivers. I did catch fish, though, but they were hard work.

New Zealand has changed and the fishing is getting harder as more people visit and more guides work the popular rivers. I'd love to get back again because the fishing can be so good, but I can't see that happening. There comes a time when old age catches up and taking 5 minutes to change a fly or not being able to cross a river detracts from the enjoyment of being there.

As much as I love New Zealand, returning home makes you realize just how good we have it in our neck of the woods. We have Trout (albeit small compared to NZ) in the mountains, Bass in the rivers and Trevally in the estuaries. We are only a few hours from Barramundi, Saratoga, Murray Cod, Carp and Australian Salmon.

The club tries to take advantage of all that our region has to offer so take a look at the calendar and see if there is something that will interest you. We fish our home waters and arrange trips to places like Dunmore, Swansea, Keepit and Cania. If you enjoy fly fishing and getting away with a group of like-minded people, the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club is the place for you.

Editor

April Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday 15th April at North Beach Recreation and Bowling Club at Mylestom commencing at 6.00pm. This month will be devoted to fishing reports and hopefully the weather will have allowed a few more people to get out and catch something. Don't forget to bring along your photos to share and make sure you have registered your captures for the Fly Master awards with Jim.

All the regular meeting activities will take place with the judging of the fly tying competition, presentation of awards and discussion on upcoming outings.

The regular monthly raffle will be drawn with tickets then going into the draw for the major three-monthly prize. Someone will be going home with a platted lanyard donated by Bill Anderson, a Trevor Hawkins print donated by distant member Ben Nieuwerth and framed by Pip Bevan and a wooden fly box donated by Doug. A big thank you to these members for their support.



Committee Meeting

The committee will meet before the April meeting at the North Beach Club commencing at 5.00pm.

If you have any items for the agenda, please get in contact with the Secretary or any Committee member. Any member can sit in on a Committee Meeting. Decisions made by Committee are presented at general meetings and in the newsletter and minutes are made available for those who would like a copy.

April Outing

A club outing to Stuarts Point on the Macleay River has been planned for Saturday 6th April. The long range weather forecast is not looking good, so make sure you are registered so you can be contacted if it has to be cancelled.

You can fish from Stuarts Point or Fishermans Reach but we will be meeting for a free BBQ lunch at 1.00pm at the ramp at Stuarts Point. Boats or kayaks will offer the best fishing but there are bank options available. You can launch whenever you want but someone will be at the Stuarts Point boat ramp at 8.00am.

Mike Ferris will be the coordinator and you can contact him on 0428636858 to find out more and to register. If you are going make sure you let Mike know of your whereabouts on the day. Fish species you are likely to encounter are bream, flathead, whiting, mullet, and luderick.

Fly Tying Competition

The winner of the fly tying competition for the best cod fly was Bill Anderson. Rumour has it, the Committee is going to introduce a handicap system if Bill continues to submit his great ties 😊.



This month the competition will be for an estuary fly and hopefully the challenge of knocking Bill of his perch will be enough to encourage everyone to have a go. The names of previous winners and flies to be tied in the coming months, can be found in our Fly Tying [Hall of Fame](#).

Fly Tying Night

Our next fly tying night will be on Monday 29th April at 6.00pm at the North Beach Recreation and Bowling Club in the Osprey room out the back. We will be tying a dry fly for trout. You can see more information about the fly we are tying in the [Fly Tying](#) section.

Tuesday Casting Group

Tuesday casting has begun for the year and we welcomed new members and regulars making for a big turnout. You are reminded to bring a chair each week and your own coffee mug as we have phased out plastic cups.



Casting will continue this month on Tuesdays unless there is a need to cancel due to the weather or other circumstances. If you turn up at the Mylestom Cricket Oval at 10.00am to find no one there, check the Newsletter, Facebook or your emails or drive to the end of the road at the Café and see if we have moved to the shelter shed there.

The timetable is as follows:

- 9.45am - Arrive ready for 10.00am start.
- 10.00am – 11.00am How-to sessions and Casting
- 11am till 11.30am Morning tea
- 11.30 am till 12 noon More casting.

The casting program for the month of April is:

Casting at Mylestom on Tuesday 2nd
Casting at Mylestom on Tuesday 9th
Fishing at Valla Beach on Tuesday 16th
Casting at Mylestom on Tuesday 23rd
Casting at Mylestom on Tuesday 30th

I hope to see you at a casting day soon. If you need any further information, give me a call on 0427457725

Allan

Casting Day

For those who can't make Tuesday Casting, there will be a casting day on Sunday 28th April at Mylestom Oval starting at 10.00am and finishing at 12.30pm. During the morning you will find out about the Fly Casting Skills Development program and have a chance to brush up on your casting skills. Morning tea will be provided and you will have plenty of time to chat fly casting and fishing with others present. You are welcome to bring visitors and friends and fly rods will be available for those who need them. You must register so write your name in the Outings Folder or contact Allan on 0427457725.

Casting with Hastings Fly Club

Looking further ahead, on Monday 13th May the Hasting Fly Fishing Club from Port Macquarie will be visiting us for a casting morning. Put the date in your diary and see if you can join us for an enjoyable social morning of casting games and a chance to catch up with our southern neighbours. Please register if you can make it so we have numbers for the BBQ.

Learn About Fly Fishing For Trout

On Saturday 4th May we are having a day at Ebor to learn about fly fishing for trout. Weather permitting, we will be based on the banks of the Guy Fawkes River near the Ebor Hotel.

The morning will be taken up with demonstrations, discussions and on stream presentations. This will cover everything from basic rod setups, to stream craft and insect identification.

After lunch you will be taken to a section of the Guy Fawkes River with one of our experienced members where you will have a chance to catch a trout on fly.



This is not a day for a complete beginner as you will be expected to be able to cast a fly rod. Nor is it a day for someone who has caught numerous trout. If you are an experienced trout fisher you might like to volunteer to come along and help by sharing your knowledge and skills.

Morning tea will be provided for a gold coin donation. You will be responsible for your own lunch. We will be meeting at 9.00am at Ebor. Bring your fly fishing gear and a chair. You must register and you can do so in the Club Outings Folders or by contacting Allan on 0427457725.

Fly Master Awards

New Fly Master awards were presented last month and more people are working towards their next badge.

If you don't have a Fly Master badge yet, you should make it your goal for the year. All you have to do is catch three different species on fly and they don't even have to be legal size (but they must be carefully released). You can even count any fish you have caught since you became a member of the club. We want every member to have a badge and we can't make it any easier than that.

Anyone who needs help registering their captures need only ask Jim. He will assist you register your fish and answer all your questions. If you don't have photographs, your word will be accepted.



David Small was presented with a Foundation and Bronze awards and Mick Cannon with a Platinum award.

Lake St Clair

The Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club has invited us to participate in their trip to Lake St Clair over the weekend of 14th/16th June this year. Lake St Clair (or Glennies Creek Dam as it is also known) is in the Hunter Valley not far from Singleton. Nestled at the foothills of the Barrington Tops National Park, Lake St Clair offers a variety of fishing options for both boat-based and land-based anglers. Target species include native Australian bass, golden perch, silver perch, catfish and eels.

If anyone is interested in going, please contact Glenn as soon as possible on 0409151270 so he can let the Hunter Valley Club know.



Calendar Updates

Make sure you always check the calendar in the latest newsletter. If you have been doing this you will have noted the date for the Sunday Casting Day has been changed because I forgot about Mother's Day!

Keep watch for date changes for the Swansea trip scheduled for late August. Once we have reliable information that the Salmon have arrived in Swansea Channel, the dates may be changed.

Events Calendar 2024

Month	Outings and Activities	Meetings
JANUARY	No outings in January	Committee Meeting Mylestom Monday 15 th 5.30pm
FEBRUARY	Casting Day Port Macquarie Monday 5 th (Allan) Home Waters Mylestom Saturday 24 th (Glenn) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 26 th (Cod fly)	Club Meeting Monday 19 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Bass Fly (surface)
MARCH	Tuesday Casting Group Resumes 19 th March Bass Day Taylor's Arm Saturday 9 th (Doug) Cod Trip Ashford Saturday 23 - Monday 25 th (Chris) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 25 th (Estuary fly)	Club Meeting Monday 18 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Cod Fly
APRIL	Easter 29th March – April 2nd School Holidays 15th – 26th April Stuarts Point Saturday 6 th (Mick) Casting Day Mylestom Sunday 28 th (Allan) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 29 th (Dry trout fly)	Club Meeting Monday 15 th Committee Meeting 5.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Estuary Fly
MAY	Ebor Saturday 4 th (Allan) Visit from Hasting Fly Club for Casting Monday 13 th Home Waters Saturday 25 th (Anthony) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 27 th (Shrimp or crab fly)	Club Meeting Monday 20 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Dry trout fly
JUNE	Lake St Clair (with HVFFC) Friday 14 th -Sunday 16 th Macksville Saturday 22nd Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 24 th (Wet trout fly)	Club Meeting Monday 17 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Shrimp or Crab
JULY	School Holidays Monday 8 th – Friday 19 th July Home Waters Saturday 6th Dunmore Waters Friday 19 th to Sunday 21 st Dunmore Waters Friday 26 th to Sunday 28 th Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 29 th (Surf Candy)	AGM Monday 15 th 6.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Wet trout fly
AUGUST	Northern Beaches Drummer Saturday 10 th (Murray) Swansea Thursday 22 nd – Sunday 25 th (Allan) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 26 th (Bread Fly)	Club Meeting Monday 19 th Committee Meeting Mylestom 5.00pm Fly Tying Competition Surf Candy
SEPTEMBER	School Holidays Monday 30 th September – Friday 11 th October Battle of the Bread Fly Moonee Beach Saturday 14th Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 30 th (Bass Fly)	Club Buy/Swap/Sell Meet Monday 16 th Mylestom Fly Tying Competition Bread Fly
OCTOBER	Brushgrove/Grafton Saturday 12 th (Glenn) Kempsey Bass Trip Saturday 26 th (Mick) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 28 th (Carp Fly)	Club Meeting Monday 21 st 6.00pm Mylestom Fly Tying Competition Bass Fly (sub surface)
NOVEMBER	Keepit Carp Caper Wednesday 6 th – Sunday 10 th (Tom) Cania Dam QLD Saturday 23 rd – Saturday 30 th (Glenn) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 25 th (Anything Goes)	Club Meeting Monday 18 th Committee Meeting 5.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Carp Fly
DECEMBER	School Holidays Monday 23 rd December – Thursday 3 rd Jan Home Waters Saturday 7th Christmas Gathering BBQ Valla Tuesday 10th	No Club Meeting Christmas Raffle Drawn

Writing a Fishing Report

By Anthony Heiser

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. Our members really enjoy reading about fishing trips and anything fly fishing. I have put together some thoughts on writing an article to encourage more members to have a go. You don't have to follow what I have written in detail but it might help you get started.

How Long Should it be?

Long enough to tell your story and short enough not to be boring. That usually equates to one or two pages with photos. There is no maximum length so if you have plenty to tell and lots of photos, go for it.

Does it need to be perfect?

No one is perfect and no one writes a perfect report. Tell your story the way you see it and the way you think members will enjoy reading it. Don't worry about spelling and grammatical errors. We have an Editor whose job it is to sort that out and we pay him big money to do it!

Style

Everyone has their own style of writing and if it works stick to it. My style is to lead with a picture at the start of the article that tells everyone what the article is about. For example, if the article was about chasing Salmon at Swansea, I'd have a big grin and photo of someone holding a large salmon they just landed. The second thing I would do in the opening paragraph would be to say in two or three sentences what the article was about, and then I'd start telling the story of the trip to Swansea from the beginning in the second paragraph. Sometimes, writing the first paragraph is the hardest part. If you cannot think of what to write about in the opening paragraph, then skip it and start writing the rest of the article. Then return to the opening paragraph.

Jot down some notes.

Some people just like to start writing and see where it takes them. Others like to have a plan. I like to jot down some notes which I can use to flesh out the article. These notes might include:

- Where did you go: (think about how much information you want to share)
- When did you go:
- Who went:
- Why did you go:
- How did you fish: (eg what flies, what weight rods, what techniques)
- How was the weather/water?
- What happened: (this can include any amusing accidents or mishaps)
- What did you catch:
- Any memorable moments:
- Any new tips or tricks you learnt:
- What photos can you use and what can you say about those photos: (photos can include grin and grip pics of angler with fish, close up of fish, scenery, people fishing, flies etc, group photo)

Once that's done, my suggested format is after your opening paragraph:

- introduce who went, when and where, and what made you all decide to go on this trip. Don't write more than one or two paragraphs on this ... just get straight to the fishing.
- write a paragraph setting the scene when you arrived at your fishing spot - eg weather, water, serenity etc
- some anecdotes about captures or ones that got away. Always try to make sure everyone gets mentioned if possible - people like to read about themselves and it's a nice way of creating memories for them about a particular fishing trip
- include anecdotes of anything new you might have learnt or experienced.

Concluding the article

There're a few ways you can conclude the article. One way is your last anecdote which could be something that occurred on the last day or towards the end of the trip.

You can then lead into a paragraph about that being the end of the trip and finish off with some concluding sentences about how it was a great (or terrible) trip and whether you are all planning to go back there again next year... or that you all drove home with the satisfaction that everyone caught a fish on fly ...or what new trip you are all planning for your next outing or adventure.

Here's an article I wrote that loosely follows the formula above: [Canberra Fishermans Club - Fishing the ANSA Glenbawn Convention \(canberrafishos.com\)](http://canberrafishos.com).

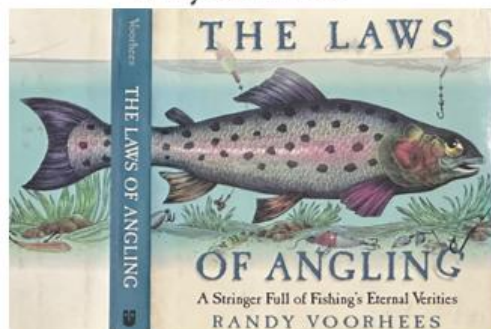
Finally, I sometimes use the articles to express gratitude to people who helped make the trip a great weekend or, if applicable, any sponsors or

supporters. Here's another article I wrote that loosely follows the formula above but has the thankyou's at the end: [Canberra Fishermans Club - Fishing the ANSA Nowra Convention: 15-17 February 2019 \(canberrafishos.com\)](http://canberrafishos.com).

As I mentioned at the start, you don't have to follow everything I have written in detail, but it may help you get started.

And while story-telling is supposedly second nature to fishermen... if you get stuck writing your article, drop me or Allan a line and we can help you finish it off.

Nobody's exactly sure when the first fish story was told. Probably what happened was about a million years ago a couple of cavemen were standing near a stream with sticks, string, and worms in their hands when they noticed a trout swim past. One caveman said, "Hey, let's try and catch that trout." And the other said, "Nah, let's just tell everyone we did."



Anthony

Fishing Reports

By the Editor

It's not often I get two photos worthy of a front cover in the one month but it happened this time. President Glenn has graced the cover of the newsletter before so unfortunately, he has been relegated to the fishing reports. It's such a good shot of a good fish and an equally good fisherman that I might just use it again on the cover next month.



No written fishing reports this month so here is a collection of photos and comments about the recent fly fishing exploits of our members. With two groups in New Zealand, the trip to Ashford after Cod and the usual members out and about on our local waterways, it was a difficult decision about what to include. If you want to make sure your photos and stories make the fishing report, the best way is to write something so the editor can't leave anything out.

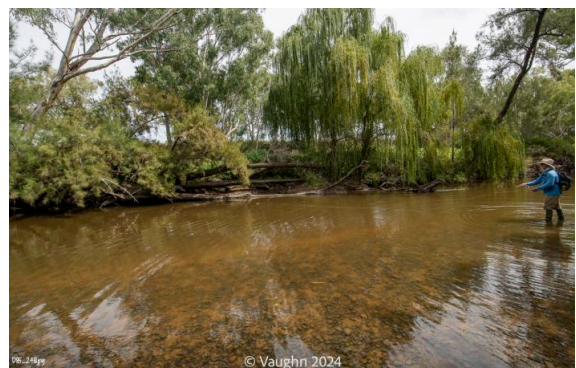
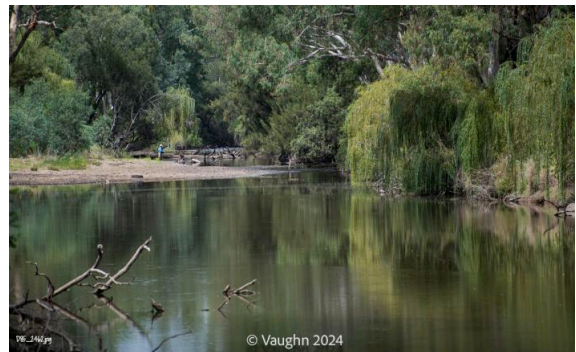
Glenn's Comments:

"Happy! You bet I'm happy, after the disappointment of losing a solid fish the previous night (1 second of slack line = 10 hours of kicking yourself for your stupidity) Next morning Lady Luck was on my side & I captured my first Murray Cod on fly, a gorgeous well-conditioned fish of 700mm that erupted in a massive surface strike that I'll long remember.



Caught on my 7 weight Primal Raw rod with a 7 wt clear tip Rio outbound short line. The fly was a white "Gurgler" fly which was the pattern I had tied for our March monthly fly tying comp which made the capture even sweeter. A couple of quick photos and I returned the fish to the river, so happy to see it swim away strongly.

Camping on the banks of the Severn River on our recent Club Cod Trip, fishing was a bit slow thanks to a falling barometer but with a beautiful location & great company it was a most pleasant trip."



Mick's Comments:

"I caught my smallest cod ever on a retrieve I call let's wind in and move to the next snag. The retrieve works best if you look at your friend while you're winding in."



Chris Russell did a great job organizing the trip and made sure he had all the right gear ... including a chainsaw to retrieve his favourite fly from a tree.



Mick made up for not catching the biggest cod by catching the biggest mud crab. The rain must have encouraged the crabs to travel up from Deep Creek ... or Mick might have brought them with him! Either way, they were enjoyed by the group cooked over the campfire.



As you will have gathered from the front cover, Garry and Paul Bennett have been in New Zealand arriving the week after we left. Although they got better weather, they found the fish as difficult to catch as we did.

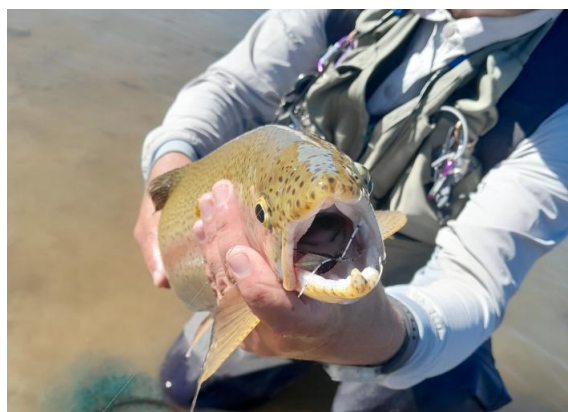
Talking to guides and locals, everyone seemed to agree it had not been a good season. It may have been the floods that occurred earlier in the season or it may have been the pressure of so many people fishing the popular rivers. Whatever way you look at it, everyone seemed to agree the fish were very fussy about which fly they wanted and how they wanted it presented.

Garry and Paul found success on a river near Te Anau which they had fished the year before. The rainbows were still there to be caught and had a liking for big flies, which is the opposite of what we found on the rivers further east.

As for our trip, let's get the fish photos out of the way so I can include a few pictures of what I enjoyed most about fly fishing in New Zealand.



Brian, Jim and John with nice Browns.



My fish were photographed in a landing net marked so registrar Jim could count them towards my Platinum Fly Master award ... so no grip and grins from me. I much prefer the memories that these photos will conjure up when I look back on the highlights of this trip.



Meanwhile, back on this side of the ditch, Vaughn and Bill, who think too much fly fishing is never enough, stopped off at Uncle Billy's on their way home from Ashford and caught a rainbow trout or two. Uncle Billy's is a similar setup to Dunmore Trout Waters and well worth a visit. The Club goes to Dunmore as it has more room to cope with our numbers.



Some people can catch fish anywhere and Paul is one of them. Catching a bass, a bream and a rainbow trout in the space of a week is no trouble. Won't be long now till he has his Platinum Fly Master award.



Mick caught these Luderick recently to remind us that the season is about to kick off. They only need to be 35cm to count towards a Platinum award.



Casting Around



Leaders

So much has been written about leaders it would seem there is nothing new I could add. And that would be correct. Books have been published, videos made and the Internet flooded with information explaining the complexity of leader construction by people much more knowledgeable than me. What I want to write about this month is my experience with leaders on a recent trip to New Zealand. You won't find anything original or eye opening here, but hopefully there will be something that will help you become a better fly fisher by thinking about the leaders you use.

But, first a little revision for those who might not yet be up to speed on leaders and their importance in fly fishing. The leader is the piece of nylon attached at the end of the fly line that presents the fly to the fish. Without a leader on your fly line, it would be difficult to make a cast and almost impossible to catch a fish. I am not going to expand too much on the basics here. If you don't understand about tapers, mono vs fluoro, butt sections, length, the x system, tippet or anything else related to leaders, you need to go back and do some research. There are many options when it comes to choosing a leader, and you need to know about them all.

If you go into a fly shop you will find a wall full of leaders and if you ask for assistance, you will probably be given a 9ft tapered leader in a breaking strain appropriate for the fish you are targeting. As a shop assistant, or a casting instructor, it is often necessary to avoid the complexity of leaders and stick to what might be considered accepted wisdom. There are no standards or rules that will decide the appropriate leader for every situation. What might be best on our home waters may not work on a New Zealand River. It would be much simpler if all leaders were the same. On the other hand, it would lead to less fish being caught. An understanding of leaders is essential to becoming a successful fly fisher.

Leaders are designed to aid casting and help us catch fish. From the point of view of casting, the leader continues the transfer of energy from the tapered fly line to the fly. Without some form of leader on the end of the fly line, it would be difficult to form loops ... and impossible to tie a trout fly to the end. The leader transfers the energy from the fly line to the fly resulting in the fly extending (turning over) and landing on the water. If this was the only purpose of the leader, life would be simple.



When you add catching fish to the equation, leaders become more complicated. Now the leader not only has to turn over the fly, it has to do it in a way that will help you catch a fish. Those demands are slightly different in salt and fresh water, but generally speaking, if you want to catch a fish, your leader needs to do a number of things. First, it must taper from thick to thin so you can tie tippet and a fly on the end. It must be less visible to the fish than a fly line, and land quietly on the water when needed. The leader, and the tippet that is added at the end, has to present the fly with a natural drag free drift when required or provide enough slack for the fly to sink to the level the fish are feeding at. Finally, the leader must be constructed so that it will turn over in windy conditions (especially important in New Zealand and saltwater situations) and is strong enough to land a fish. Sometimes it also needs to be tough enough to withstand toothy critters. If you know of one leader that does all these things well, let me know and I will buy the factory!

I remember being told on my first trip to New Zealand to make sure I didn't take any bright fly lines and that I would need long leaders. I've discovered over the years that this is not necessarily true in all situations but there is good reason for that advice being given and good grounds for it to be heeded. Fly fishing in New Zealand is all about wind, crystal clear water and wild fish. To be successful you need a leader that will counter all these situations. A standard 9foot leader is not going to cut it. Short leaders are easier to cast on windy days but clear water demands a long leader so as not to spook the fish. In New Zealand that can mean anything from 15 to 20 feet when low water levels and bright conditions allow the fish to see you as easily as you can see it.

So it was, I set forth on this trip with a camo fly line and some long leaders. After much discussion within our group about leader setups, I decided to go with the majority view and use a polyleader. If you haven't come across polyleaders before, now is the time for some more research. Polyleaders, along with furled and braided leaders, have been around for a long time and are favoured for the way they turn over in the wind. They have a plastic outer coat over a monofilament core. They come in various tapers, lengths, densities and colours. With the addition of an appropriate length of tippet, they met most of my requirements for a suitable leader for New Zealand.



Polyleaders were not new to me and I have used them before because of their inherent benefits. They turn over well, are less prone to tangles and last a long time. The one disadvantage to me of polyleaders has always been about the way they land. Being of similar diameter and taper as fly line, a polyleader must drop on the water with more vibration and ripples than that of a traditional mono leader. When you add a tippet ring there is even more reason for concern. Even in fast moving water I believe this can spook fish. For this reason, I have been reluctant to wholeheartedly embrace polyleaders in the past.

After weighing up the pros and cons, and listening to the consensus view of our group, I decided I would give polyleaders a go this time. I bought a couple of new 10 foot polyleaders and attached them loop to loop to my camo fly lines. With the addition of a tippet ring on the end, I could easily add and subtract tippet as needed to make up the long leaders required for New Zealand conditions. I used this setup for the entire trip, although with flooded rivers and illness intervening, it wasn't a long testing period.

On reflection, I am happy with my decision to use polyleaders on this trip. They didn't tangle, laid out straight and I didn't need to replace them for the whole trip. The main advantage was the flexibility to add tippet to make a long leader that was still relatively easy to turn over. Even on windy days, a shortened tippet still enabled me to turn over leaders up to 15ft with reasonable accuracy. By controlling my casting stroke, I found I could present the polyleader almost as delicately as a mono leader. I can honestly say that of all the fish I managed to spook, none could be attributed to the polyleader.

As for the future, I'm not sure if I will be using polyleaders exclusively. For me, they are not the answer in every situation. The cost is far greater than a simple straight or tapered leader. There are issues with adding an indicator when nymphing and I'm still not totally convinced I can land a polyleader as quietly as a mono leader.

One thing I am convinced of, is the need to be able to cast a long leader if you want to catch trout in New Zealand. You have to be able to spot the fish, decide on the right fly and then present it accurately without spooking the fish. The leader is an important part in that equation. If you can't present the fly in a way the fish wants to eat it, you're not in the game. In the end that comes down to casting ability. If you can only cast a 9ft leader then that is what you should use. But if you want my advice on leaders for New Zealand, the longer the better. Polyleaders have their advantages in that regard, but whether you want to use them or not is up to you.



Mo Tackle Fly Tying



FLY TYING *Sessions* Q1 2024

- Shrimp Flies - Saturday February 10th 2-4pm
- Estuary Flies - Saturday March 9th 2-4pm
- Larger Flathead Flies - Saturday April 13th 2-4pm

- Learn to tie flies
- Improve your fly tying skills
- Learn new fly patterns
- Meet other fly fishermen
- Share your skills with others

\$15*
PP

*ENTRY FEE WILL COVER ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO TIE WITH
THERE ARE ONLY 6 SEATS PER SESSION - TO SECURE A SPOT PLEASE CONTACT JOHN
ON 6652 4611 - FLY@MOTACKLE.COM.AU OR DROP IN TO MOTACKLE & OUTDOORS

Fly Tying

By the Editor

At this month's fly tying night on Monday 29th April, we will be tying a dry fly for trout. Choosing one fly to tie from the thousands of patterns available, is very subjective but I am going to select a Parachute Adams. While we were in New Zealand, the Parachute Adams spent a lot of time on the end of my tippet. It didn't necessarily catch many trout, but I fished it confidently knowing what a great attractor pattern it is. I wouldn't go anywhere in the world without a selection of Parachute Adams in various sizes in my fly box.



We have tied a number of dry flies in our fly tying sessions, including a Red Tag, F-fly, Elk Hair Caddis and Stimulator. All of these are very effective flies but if I had to have just one dry fly pattern in my fly box it would be a Parachute Adams ... except maybe in Tasmania!

The beauty of the Parachute Adams is that it does not try to imitate an exact insect but can be used as an attractor fly when no hatch is present. It can also be used to imitate mayflies, caddis and midges by changing the size. Because it sits low in the water, it can be used as an emerger when trout are taking insects just below the surface.

The Parachute Adams is not the easiest dry fly to tie but we are going to give it a go. You can substitute some materials or leave out the double colour tails and wings if you want to simplify things. In the end, I think it is more about matching the size than the exact colours used in the original tie. We are going to tie on size 12 hooks to make it easier but I mostly fish it in size 14 or smaller.

If you are coming to fly tying you will be able to buy a materials packs containing enough hooks and materials to tie 5 Parachute Adams. Thanks to David Small for the help with putting together these packs and to Bill Anderson who tied a sample fly for everyone to follow and use.

The Parachute Adams

The Parachute Adams is a modern variant of the original Adams dry fly. The Adams is one of the most popular, versatile, effective and best-selling flies ever invented. It is considered a general imitation of an adult mayfly, flying caddis or midge. It was designed by American Leonard Halladay in 1922, at the request of Charles Adams who was having problems finding a fly to match the hatch. The fly was successful and Halladay continued to tie and sell the new fly, and named it after his friend, the "Adams fly".

The Parachute Fly

The parachute style of fly tying developed independently in both America and Scotland in the 1930's. In Scotland, the concept of wrapping the hackle horizontally is attributed to Helen Todd. Initially, parachute flies were tied on special hooks made with a metal post. They worked well with the fly landing

upright on nearly every cast and were visible to the fly fisher. Unfortunately, they were also heavy and did not float well so their popularity was short-lived.

Nearly forty years later, in 1971, Swisher and Richards advocated the effectiveness of flush-floating flies in their book, "Selective Trout". The parachute fly was among the several patterns they wrote about. Being able to lie flat on the water's surface, it created a silhouette that could resemble a spent spinner or a crippled dun that attracted trout. Rather than using a special hook, they created a post made of deer or calf hair, which kept the fly light. Today, CDC feathers and artificial materials such as Antron and Polypropylene are frequently used as well.

The modern Parachute Adams has continued to be very popular and you would find few fly boxes that didn't contain a Parachute Adams or two. Every fly tier has their own recipe for tying the fly, but you would do well to look at the history of the fly and stick with the basics that made this fly so effective. Because it is so popular, you will find plenty of step by step instructions and videos online to help. You can use any of these or do your own thing. Below is my recipe for the Parachute Adams but feel free to try what works for you.

Hook: Dry fly– Size 12-22.

Thread: Olive, Brown or Gray 6/0.

Tail: Brown and Grizzle hackle fibres

Para post: White calf tail, Antron or Polypropylene

Hackle: One grizzle, one brown

Body: Adam's grey super fine dubbing



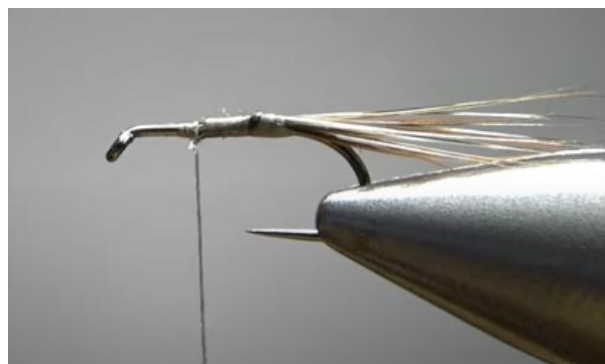
Step 1: Introduce thread and wrap down to the bend of the hook.



Step 2: Tie in a small bunch of brown hackle for the tail.



Step 3: Ties in a small bunch of grizzle hackle to add to the tail.





Step 4: Tie the calf tail or polypropylene towards the eye of the hook.



Step 5: Trim and tie down.



Step 6: Stand up calf tail using thread.



Step 7: Bind up calf tail to make a post.



Step 8: Introduce one brown and one grizzle hackle up the post.



Step 9: Run thread to bend of hook and wrap in the grey dubbing.



At this stage it helps if you can reposition your fly in the vice vertically.



Step 10: Make three turns with the brown hackle down the post and tie off.



The finished fly. You can change the colour of the post if you would like something more visible.



Step 11: Make three turns with the grizzle hackle down the post and tie off.



Step 12: Make sure the hackle is secure and tie off with a whip finish behind the eye.

In the video below, Tim Flagler ties this pattern in a size 22. I suggest you start with a size 12 so you can see what you are doing and gain confidence before trying the smaller sizes.



Club Shop



This short sleeve shirt is available locally from Zevo Global in Fraser Drive Coffs Harbour (phone 66500022). There is no minimum order and the cost is \$50 with club logo.



Club caps are in stock. The hats are \$15. Contact the Treasurer to buy.



Both patterns of boat stickers are in stock ... \$10 each. When they're gone no more will be printed.

The original fishing shirts were made by Bigfish in Darwin. None available. We need a minimum order of 35 to get new stock. The cost would be about \$85 each.



Club hats are in stock. The hats are \$20. Contact the Treasurer to buy.

We don't hold stock of club patches but more can be ordered. Better still, if you take your garments to Nambucca T-shirts in Bowra Street Nambucca Heads (phone 65694270) you can have the logo directly embroidered for \$10.

Hall of Fame



HALL OF FAME

FOUNDATION

FISHING FOUNDATION FLY MASTER

Ray Phipps
Michael Ferris
Greg Artlett
Jim Hyatt
Brian Mighell
Garry Bennett
Anthony Heiser
Rod Ryan

CASTING FOUNDATION LEVEL

Bill Anderson	Phill Stever
Greg Artlett	Garry Germon
Garry Bennett	Kallum Jones
Mick Cannon	Vaughn Hagelstein
Michael Ferris	Andrew Cummins
Ken Holley	Chris Russell
David Lindsay	David Barclay
Brian Mighell	Graeme Baldwin
Stephen Mitchell	Glenn Colquhoun
Murray Robinson	Andrew Cummins
Nigel Smith	Allan Ekert
Doug Urquhart	Wal Franklin
Jim Wray	Mark Gawne
Ray Phipps	Garry Germon
David Small	Bill Ker
Steve Rampant	Grant Jennings
Mark Flook	Peter McGrath
David Lindsay	Duncan Sadler
Bill Herd	Phill Stever
David Small	Jonathan Bradshaw
John Starr	
Tom Trefz	





HALL OF FAME

BRONZE

FISHING BRONZE FLY MASTER

Greg Artlett
Jim Hyatt
Brian Mighell
Garry Bennett
Anthony Heiser
Doug Urquhart
Ray Phipps

CASTING BRONZE LEVEL

Greg Artlett
Bill Herd
John Starr
Greg Baxter
Ray Phipps
Garry Bennett
Allan Ekert
Mick Cannon
Mike Ferris
Wal Franklin
Stephen Mitchell
John O'Shaughnessy
Steve Rampant
Murray Robinson
David Small
Phill Stever
Doug Urquhart
Jim Wray
Glenn Colquhoun
David Lindsay
Bill Anderson
Vaughn Hagestein
Jonathan Bradshaw
Mark Flook

Brian Bevan





HALL OF FAME

SILVER

FISHING SILVER FLY MASTER

Tom Clancy
Jim Wray
Glenn Colquhoun
Brian Mighell
Allan Ekert
John Starr
David Lindsay (2)
Doug Urquhart
Murray Robinson
Bill Anderson
Garry Bennett
Paul Bennett
Wal Franklin

CASTING SILVER LEVEL

Murray Robinson
Mike Ferris
Allan Ekert
John O'Shaughnessy
Jonathan Bradshaw





HALL OF FAME

GOLD

FISHING GOLD FLY MASTER

David Lindsay
Tom Clancy
Glenn Colquhoun
Brian Mighell
Allan Ekert

CASTING GOLD LEVEL

Allan Ekert
John O'Shaughnessy





HALL OF FAME

PLATINUM

**FISHING
PLATINUM FLY
MASTER**

Mick Cannon
Jim Wray

**FFI CERTIFIED
CASTING
INSTRUCTOR**

Allan Ekert
Garry Hambly



Fly Tying Competition Hall of Fame



HALL OF FAME



FLY TYING COMPETITION WINNERS 2024

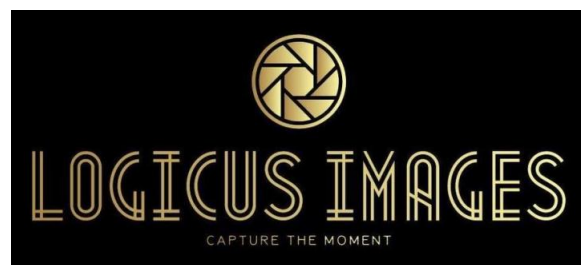
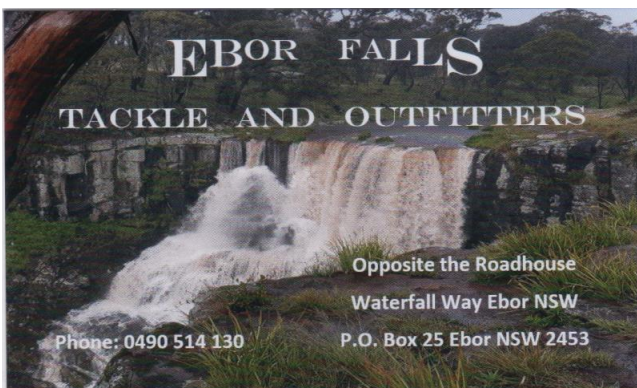
February:	Bass Fly (surface)	Bill Anderson
March:	Cod Fly	Bill Anderson
April:	Estuary Fly	
May:	Trout Dry Fly	
June:	Shrimp or Crab	
July:	Trout Wet Fly	
August:	Surf Candy	
September	Bread Fly	
October:	Bass Fly (sub surface)	
November:	Carp Fly	

Our Supporters

These people have helped our Club in one way or another. When you are looking for products or services, make sure you consider them first.



North Beach
Recreation & Bowling Club



Membership Fees

Membership Fees are as follows:

Adult membership \$30

Family membership \$40

Concession membership \$20

Junior membership free

Distant membership \$10

The membership year runs from 1st July to 30th June.

Membership fees will be halved if joining after December

Family membership is available for a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.

Concession membership is available to pension card holders (including disability support and aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs cardholders

Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour.

Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

Fees can be paid:

1. Direct deposit:



Bananacoast Community Credit Union

BSB 533 000

Account Number: 02051766

Name: Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc

Reference: Your surname

When depositing, make sure you include your surname in the Reference section. e.g. **Ekert Membership.**

2. **In cash** or by **cheque** at the next meeting or fly tying night. (cheques) made payable to Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

3. By cheque posted to:

The Membership Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
11 Butterfly Close
Boambee East 2452

Club Contact Address

Our official email address is

coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

The Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
19 Maxwell Avenue
South Grafton NSW 2460

Electronic Contacts

We have a Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club website which can be found at:

<http://coffscoastflyfishing.weebly.com/>.

If you find problems with the website such as broken links, please email the Secretary so they can be rectified.

Our Facebook Page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/coffscoastflyfishing/>

We have a **Facebook Group**. If you are on FB all you need to do is search for Coffs Coast Fly Fishers and ask to join the Group.

Membership Form

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

I apply for Membership or Renewal in the following membership category (*tick appropriate box*):

Adult \$30 Family \$40 Concession \$20 Junior - Free Distant \$10

Please fill all information below:

Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____ Town: _____
Postcode: _____ Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____
Email: _____
Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

For Family Membership please complete the details below:

Name: _____	DOB: _____	Relationship: _____
Name: _____	DOB: _____	Relationship: _____
Name: _____	DOB: _____	Relationship: _____

By signing below, you agree to abide by the Constitution, rules and safety regulations of the Club.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Legal Guardian if for Junior member: _____ Date: _____

The club uses photographs taken by members or of members in the newsletter, promotional materials, on the website and on our Facebook Page. If you do not want your photograph to be used tick here.

Phone numbers and email addressed are shared by club members to co-ordinate club outings and for safety purposes. If you do not want your details shared tick here.

This signed Membership form must be given or sent by email or post to the Club together with payment of annual Club fees. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, or direct deposit.

Post signed form and cheque to:

The Membership Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
11 Butterfly Close
Boambee East 2452

Direct Deposit:

BSB: 533 000
Account No: 02051766
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc
Reference: **Your surname + membership**

Notes

Club Membership Definitions:

1. Concession membership is available to; Pension Cardholders (including Disability support and Aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs Cardholders.
2. A family is a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.
3. Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.
4. Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour. Distant Members are entitled to all the benefits of club membership and are covered by public risk insurance.

Fees:

1. Our preferred method of payment is Direct Deposit. When making a **Direct Deposit** please ensure you include in the Reference: your **Surname** so the payment can be identified by the Club Treasurer and a receipt issued.
2. Fees can be paid in **Cash** or by **Cheque** at a meeting or club outing.
3. Cheques to be made payable to **Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.**

Completed Membership Forms:

1. Can be scanned and emailed to the Secretary at coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com
2. Can be hand-written and handed to the Secretary at a meeting or event.
3. Can be posted to the Membership Secretary at the above address.

All information supplied will be held in Club records and will only be available to financial Club members, if approved by the applicant as indicated on their membership form.

Coffs Coast Fly Fishers Fly Master Awards

February 2024 Ver 1.2

The Fly Master Awards are being implemented to encourage members to improve their fly fishing skills and catch more fish on fly. They are not meant to be competitive within the Club but to provide motivation and recognition for members to achieve their individual fly fishing goals.

The awards are designed to give every member the chance to progress through the levels from Foundation to Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum no matter where they live or what they fish for. To this end, the list of species is broad, providing those who fish freshwater, saltwater, estuaries, lakes or oceans something to target.

The **Foundation** and **Bronze** levels are about beginners fishing in our local waters for bread-and-butter species. The **Silver** and **Gold** levels broaden the level of difficulty and encompass all of Australia and Oceania. The **Platinum** level is for those who want the ultimate challenge.

There are no prizes and the only recognition will be a listing in The Hall of Fame and a club certificate and badge. There are rules designed to make it fair for everyone but it all comes down to individual honesty and people abiding by the spirit of the awards.

Catch and release is encouraged. There is no need to take a fish anywhere to be measured. A photograph, or better still a photograph on a brag mat, is ideal but your word will be accepted. These awards are based on challenging yourself and the satisfaction that comes from achieving a fishing goal.

Jim Wray is the registrar for the Fly Master Awards and will record captures. If you want to claim an award you must email Jim at coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com with details. The email should include the name of the award you are claiming or aiming for and the details regarding species, size, and date captured and date you joined the club. A photo is not essential if you don't have one. You do not need to wait until you've acquired sufficient eligible captures to submit a claim. Jim will record your captures as you submit them until you are eligible to claim your award.

The rules, species lists and measurements are not set in stone and will be revised from time to time as seen fit by the registrar in conjunction with the Committee. All lengths have been selected specifically for use by our club and not any state or national records. If you would like to add a species or group you can submit your proposal for consideration.

Overview:

To achieve an award, you have two options. You can choose to catch a group of fish in one day or a number of fish over any period of time while you are a member of the club.

The groups and fish lengths will become more challenging as you progress through the levels.

You can achieve as many awards at a level as you like but you must submit different groups or fish for each award.

When you register a capture on fly you must decide which award your are aiming for. Once registered, a fish or group cannot be moved to another level.

Legal lengths refer to NSW but if a capture is made interstate or internationally the legal length there applies. Total length (legal length) is measured from the snout to the tip of the tail.

Summary:

There are five Fly Master awards.

To achieve the **Foundation Fly Master** award any three fish from the list must be caught on fly over any period of time. If not legal size, they must be released. It is suggested that members wanting to catch their first fish on fly target local species such as **Mullet, Bream, Flathead, Trout, Herring and Bass.**

To achieve the **Bronze Fly Master** award any group of **2** species must be caught on one day or **3** legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Silver Fly Master** award any group of **3** species must be caught on one day or **4** legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Gold Fly Master** award any group of **3** species must be caught on one day or **5** legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Platinum Fly Master** award any group of **4** species must be caught on one day or **6** legal size species from the List over any period of time.

	Group on one day	List over any period
Foundation		3 fish of any size from the list
Bronze	2 species per group	3 legal size fish from the list
Silver	3 species per group	4 legal size fish from the list
Gold	3 species per group	5 legal size fish from the list
Platinum	4 species per group	6 legal size fish from the list

Rules:

- To claim an award, you must be a financial member of the Club at the time of capture.
- To be eligible, a species must have been caught in Oceania.
- All fish have to be caught on a fly which has been cast with a fly rod (no trolling).
- There are no stipulations regarding rod weight, rod length or tippet size.
- All measurements are to be to the nearest centimetre and measured from the snout of the nose to the end of the tail.
- Retrospective claims for an award can be made from the time club membership started.
- Proof of capture in the form of a photograph is ideal but your word will be accepted. All undersize fish and protected species must be released.
- A group of fish must be caught on one calendar day.

Groups:

The groups have been chosen to give members something to aim for on club outings and when fishing alone. They start with species that can be caught locally and move on to more challenging groups which will require preparation, planning and travel.

There are no groups for the **Foundation Fly Master** as this award is aimed at beginners catching their first fish on fly.

Bronze Fly Master award: Catch all 2 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Bronze Group 1 ...	Flathead, Bream
Bronze Group 2 ...	Bass, Herring
Bronze Group 3 ...	Trevally (any two species)
Bronze Group 4 ...	Luderick, Mullet
Bronze Group 5 ...	Brown trout, Rainbow trout
Bronze Group 6 ...	Whiting, Flathead

Silver Fly Master award: Catch all 3 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Silver Group 1 ...	Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Herring
Silver Group 2 ...	Garfish, Bream, Trevally (any)
Silver Group 3 ...	Flathead, Trevally (any), Tailor
Silver Group 4 ...	Mullet, Bream, Luderick
Silver Group 5 ...	Any three species of Trevally (e.g. Gt, Brassy, Big Eye)
Silver Group 6 ...	Mulloway, Flathead, Bream

Gold Fly Master award: Catch all 3 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Gold Group 1 ...	Redfin, Yellowbelly, Murray Cod
Gold Group 2 ...	Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Brook Trout
Gold Group 3 ...	Mangrove Jack, Flathead, Bream
Gold Group 4 ...	Salmon, Tailor, Dart
Gold Group 5 ...	Mahi Mahi, Kingfish, any Tuna species.
Gold Group 6 ...	Queenfish, Barramundi, Mangrove Jack
Gold Group 7 ...	Mangrove Jack, Barramundi, Trevally (any species)

Platinum Fly Master award: Catch all 4 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Platinum Group 1 ...	Murray Cod, Yellowbelly, Carp, Redfin
Platinum Group 2 ...	Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Brook Trout, Redfin
Platinum Group 3...	Mullet, Tarpon, Bream, Trevally (any species)
Platinum Group 4...	Drummer, Tailor, Luderick, Bream
Platinum Group 5 ...	Mahi Mahi, Kingfish, any two Tuna species.
Platinum Group 6	Queenfish, Barramundi, Mangrove Jack, Trevally (any species)
Platinum Group 7 ...	Three Trevally species, Tarpon

The List:

Achieving an award by capturing the number of required species from the List is less stressful than catching a group in a day. Groups are for those who want to push themselves to catch a number of species in a short timeframe and achieve an award quickly. If working towards an award by capturing the number of species over any period of time, members can submit species as they are caught and the registrar will keep track of progress.

The list comprises those species which can be caught on fly in our local waters or throughout Oceania. It will be revised from time to time as new species are added and lengths updated. Members are welcome to submit new species and groups to be included to the registrar for consideration.

The list is in alphabetical order to help you locate the information about legal lengths and sizes. Unless stated otherwise, legal lengths relate to NSW. Where a fish is caught interstate or internationally, legal lengths in that jurisdiction must be adhered to.

Superscripts (¹) are used where additional information is needed regarding legal lengths, slot limits and variations across states, territories and international destinations.

The List

Species	Foundation	Legal Length	Bronze Length	Silver Length	Gold Length	Platinum Length
Archer fish	Any	None	20cm	25cm	27cm	29cm
Australian Salmon	Any	None	35cm	40cm	50cm	55cm
Barramundi	Any	55-58cm	55cm	65	75	85
Bass	Any	35cm	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Big Eye Trevally	Any	None ¹	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Blue Bastard	Any	None	Any	Any	40cm	50cm
Bonefish	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Bonito	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Billfish (any)	Any	None	Any	Any	Any	Any
Bream	Any	25cm	25cm	30cm	33cm	38cm
Brook Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Brown Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Carp	Any	None	45cm	55cm	65cm	75cm
Catfish	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Coral Trout	Any	38cm	38cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Dart Common	Any	None	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Drummer	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	38cm	40cm
Emperor Spangled	Any	45cm Qld	45cm	50cm	55cm	60cm
Estuary Perch	Any	35cm	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Flathead	Any	36cm	36cm	40cm	50cm	70cm ³
Frigate Mackerel	Any	None	25cm	28cm	32cm	35cm
Garfish	Any	None	23cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Giant Herring	Any	None	30cm	40cm	50cm	60cm
Golden Perch (Yellowbelly)	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Herring (freshwater)	Any	None	15cm	20cm	25cm	30cm
Jungle Perch	Any	35cm	35cm	38cm	40cm	45cm
Kingfish	Any	65cm	65cm	70cm	75cm	80cm
Lesser Queenfish	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Long Tom (Crocodile/Barred)	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Luderick	Any	27cm	27cm	30cm	33cm	35cm
Mackerel Barred	Any	75cm	75cm	80cm	85cm	80cm

Species	Foundation	Legal Length	Bronze Length	Silver Length	Gold Length	Platinum Length
Mackerel Spotted	Any	60cm	60cm	65cm	70cm	75cm
Mahi Mahi	Any	60cm	60cm	65cm	70cm	75cm
Mangrove Jack	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Mary River Cod	Any	60cm Qld	60cm	65cm	67cm	70cm
Milkfish	Any	None	40cm	45cm	50cm	60cm
Moses Perch	Any	None	25cm	28cm	33cm	38cm
Mullet	Any	None	20cm	23cm	27cm	30cm
Mulloway	Any	70cm	70cm ³	75cm	80cm	85cm
Murray Cod	Any	55cm	55cm	60cm	70cm	75cm ⁴
Permit	Any	None	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Queenfish (species not listed)	Any	50cm Qld	50cm	55cm	60cm	65cm
Rainbow Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Redfin	Any	None	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Saratoga	Any	50cm Qld	50cm	55cm	60cm	65cm
Silver Perch	Any	25cm ⁵	25cm	27cm	30cm	35cm
Silver Trevally	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Snapper	Any	30cm	30cm	33cm	38cm	40cm
Sooty Grunter	Any	28cm Qld	25cm	30cm	33cm	35cm
Tailor	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Tarpon	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Threadfin Salmon	Any	40cm Qld	40cm	45cm	50cm	55cm
Trevally (species not listed)	Any	None ¹	40cm	50cm	60cm	70cm
Trigger Fish	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Tuna (species not listed)	Any	None	40cm	50cm	60cm	70cm
Whiting sand	Any	27cm	27cm	30cm	32cm	35cm

¹ No size limit on Trevally in NSW except Silver Trevally 30cm

² Except in trout spawning streams 50cm

³ All Dusky Flathead outside the 36cm to 70cm size range are to be released unharmed.

⁴ Murray Cod smaller than 55cm, or bigger than 75cm, must be released unharmed.

⁵ Silver Perch are vulnerable species and can only be taken from listed dams.

[Go Back to Contents Page](#)