

The *Flyer*



Official Newsletter Of The



The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

JUNE 2021

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Cover: The smile says it all. Lauren was our youngest participant at the Trout Workshop but she listened and learnt and reaped the rewards. Photo courtesy *Logicus Images* (Jason Stratford.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



June 2021

Members of the CCFFC spent a very valuable and informative day at the Dutton Trout Hatchery at Ebor on the 22nd May presenting in association with DPI a Learn to Fly Fish for Trout Workshop. The workshop was well attended with twenty one participants ranging from very experienced to novices who had never cast a fly line previously. They were arranged into three groups which reflected ability to enable coaching throughout the day. A special thanks to those members of our club, Allan, Jason, David and Pip for their efforts in not only of the giving of their time but also in their sharing of their knowledge of fly fishing. Thanks also to the DPI staff, Mel, and the boys from the Hatchery for their organisation and work on the day. I think around twenty fish were landed, all caught on various flies, ranging from Woolly Buggers to Nymphs to Matukas. I think from my discussions with some of the participants towards the end of the day they all had a good time both socially and educationally. Thanks also to Allan and Mel for the early morning tea and coffee, smoko biscuits and fruit platters and to our caterer Kerry from Ebor for our lunches.

Unfortunately, our casting group will be curtailed for the first two weeks of June with Allan and David being out of State chasing fish. So, in that light casting will resume on the 15th of June - all being well.

Our main outing for June is to be held at Lake St. Clair in the Hunter from the 18th June to the 20th. This will be predominantly in pursuit of Bass.

The Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on the 19th of July. Time to think about office holders and who you would like to lead and manage your club. We are always keen to have new blood coming through the executive, so if you, or anyone you know, has aspirations in this direction - please step up.

Regards to all

Doug

From the Editor

Before I get any complaints about this month's newsletter I will offer in way of my defence that I have been away for two weeks; the trout workshop has taken up a lot of my time; I am getting ready for a trip to Hinchinbrook and my assistant Editor, Kevin, has also been on holidays. Kevin does a great job of proof reading the newsletter each month finding the mistakes and blunders I make. If you still want to complain by all means do so but I will be too busy fishing to take any notice.

You shouldn't have any complaints about the articles in this month's newsletter. Thanks to regular contributor Jeff, we have a great story about salmon fishing at Swansea. We have a club outing there in August that you should consider attending. New member Anthony has written an introduction which shows he is no novice when it comes to fly fishing. His photographs are pretty good too.

The Annual General Meeting is fast approaching and we need to fill the Executive positions of the club for us to continue. Just because someone has been doing the job for a number of years doesn't mean they want to continue. New blood brings new ideas and provides a welcome rest for those who have been carrying the load. If you think you can contribute, put up your hand.

After David's talk on photography last meeting I think you will agree that good photos make a difference. There are some great photos in this month's newsletter and I only wish we had the resources to print the newsletter in full colour for all



our members. Unfortunately, the cost would be prohibitive. For those of you who are reading the newsletter on a phone you are missing out on the detail that our photographers go to to make their shots tell the story. If you can view the newsletter on a computer or your smart TV you will notice the difference. Now that we have access to the big screen TV at North Beach Club I would like to run a slideshow of the photos from the newsletter before each meeting. It takes a bit of time to prepare but is not that difficult so if there is anyone out there with a few computer skills who would like to do this each month please let me know.

Finally, this month I am reminded of how lucky we are to have people in the club who volunteer their time and share their passion for the sport to encourage others to become involved. The Trout Workshop was a good example of this. Thanks to everyone who contributes to making this a great club and a place to learn, share and have fun.

Editor

Club Executive 2020-21



Doug Urquhart President
0458696138



Kevin Cosgrove Vice President
0438554843



Allan Ekert Secretary, Public Officer
and Newsletter Editor
0427457725



Walter Krainik Treasurer
0439187380



Rod Leane Assistant Secretary



Don Cummings Committee
0433157003



David Moppett Club Captain
0411723221



Glenn Colquhoun Committee
0409151270



Brian Bevan Committee
0409469562

**Membership fees are
due at the end of June.**

**You must complete a
membership renewal form
and pay your fees by 1st July.**

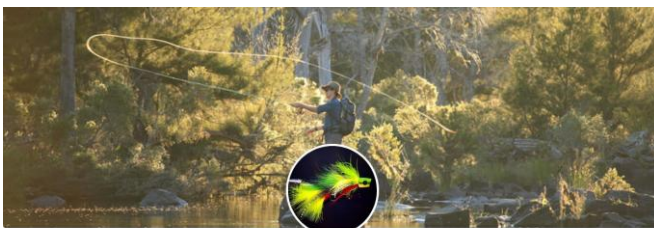
**You will find all the fees on the new form
on page 37**

Some people have already paid their fees or have credit from having paid during last year when we did not collect fees due to the pandemic. Please check your membership card or receipt before you pay but you will still need to complete a membership renewal form.

June Meeting

Our June meeting will be held on Monday 21st at the North Beach Bowling Club at Mylestom starting at **6.30pm**. Some members will be arriving earlier (about 5.30pm) to have something to eat and drink.

Our guest speaker is John Everett. John is a guide and fly tyer who comes from the New England area of NSW. He specializes in cod fishing and tying cod flies. If you want to know more about fly fishing the high country don't miss John's presentation.



John Everett

Just an average bloke that loves Jesus, his family and fishing!

This won't be a formal meeting but there will be time to discuss upcoming events and any issues.

June Outing

The outing for June is to Lake St Clair in the Hunter Valley with the Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club. Peter Sewell is their trip coordinator and he has provided all the information you should need if you want to go (see next page). Camps are limited at Lake St Clair so you will need to get in quickly if you want a site. If you don't want to camp you can stay in Singleton and travel out each day. You need to book camp sites via the Singleton Council website at: <https://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/198/Lake-St-Clair>. You will also need to let me know if you are attending so I can inform Peter.

Tuesday Casting Group

The Tuesday Casting Group will be taking a break for the first two Tuesdays in June as the instructors will be away fishing. Casting will resume on Tuesday 15th June.

Raffle

The winners of the major prizes in our last raffle were President Doug who won the fly reel and Steve Mitchell who won the Bass Bug line generously donated at the last meeting by Garry from [A1flyfishing](http://www.a1flyfishing.com).

We have been talking a lot about fly lines lately and the Bass Bug line is a great addition to anyone's collection, especially if you target Bass. More information about the line here:

http://www.a1flyfishing.com.au/shop/fly-lines-leaders-loops/south-pacific-bass-bug-fly-line-6wt-7wt-8wt/prod_971.html

The next major raffle will be drawn at our August meeting. The prize has been generously donated by Bill Anderson. Bill is a craftsman and the leather reel case that he has donated is a piece you will want to have to house your favourite fly reel.



When you buy your tickets each night at \$1 each your tickets will stay in the draw until the third week when the major prize will be drawn. Each week tickets will be drawn out for minor prizes and put back in the "barrel". This will mean you will have to write your name on the tickets. You do not have to be present to win or keep your ticket but of course your name and contact details must be on the ticket in the "barrel".

Lake St Clair

Peter Sewell Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club

I am looking forward to once again being trip master for another Lake St Clair outing which is a bass outing based in the Recreation area at Lake St Clair on the 18th, 19th, 20th June 2021. This year our friends from Coffs Coast Fly Fishers will be joining us and hopefully we can all show them a good time and put them onto some fit, healthy Lake St Clair Bass or maybe even a Yellow Belly or a Silver. Our outing is only four weeks away so check your gear and tie or buy a few flies and make your booking.

Booking is online and you have to make your own so get in there and lock it in. Your booking confirmation comes with a code to open the boom gate into The Lake St Clair Recreation Area. You can share a site and reduce your costs. You're welcome to come for a day or two or the full weekend.

We don't normally take boats and so there should be plenty of room in our camping area. You are welcome to take a boat if you wish but we tend to do better walking the banks.

I will take the club trailer up there (with BBQ, gazebos, lights, tables, some water and ice) mid to late morning on Friday 18th and look forward to seeing as many as can make it. Bring your tent / caravan/ mobile home or swag or just sleep in the car as I do.

For club members, the evening meal on Saturday will be catered for by the club. As I'm doing the meal (maybe with some help), it will be pretty simple. Steak, onion, egg, mushrooms and a bread roll and maybe a few prawns to put on another roll as an entree. The club will provide water and some soft drinks. BYO alcoholic drinks. The club kindly approves up to \$20 per head for catering for club members at Saturday night's meal and we request a \$20 contribution for those visitors who aren't club members, paid at the event. All other meals are self-catered.

Most normally arrive some time on Friday and we generally pack up after breakfast on Sunday but really you can suit yourself as to when you arrive and leave. We will camp on the hill just to the west of the amenities block and the covered electric BBQ area. There is one shower so either queue up or share.

The most productive outfit is a 6 to 8wt rod, intermediate line and flies such as Craig's Nighttime, Bushy's horror, Trev's Fly, zonker patterns, Mrs Simpson, mud-eye patterns, bass vampires and generally terrestrial style flies. You can use poppers and surface patterns with a floating line but these haven't been that productive during daylight hours except if the dragon flies are around and then it's a different story. Don't forget your headlight and your winter woollies if you want to night time fish as this is normally the most productive time. Either side of the boat ramp seems to work in the dark sometimes and is a short walk from camp.

Looking forward to a fun weekend and let me know if there is any more info required. We will need firewood to warm the cockles of our hearts, please bring some if you can.

So....Bring some nibbles to share, some fishing stories, some firewood and a good sense of humour. If you're really keen bring your fly fishing gear too.

For catering purposes please let me know if you are planning to attend and get your booking in at the park.

*Kind Regards
Peter*

P.S. There is another bass event on that weekend by the Family Bass'n Group so it would be good if we can stake our claim early to the area we normally camp.

Lake St Clair



Committee

The Committee has met and passed the following resolutions. These are being put into place now but have to be ratified (or changed) at the AGM which will be held in July.

- Most people attending club events have not completed a membership form or renewal in several years.

By the end of July everyone will need to complete a membership renewal form and pay membership fees if they want to remain a club member. Those who have not returned their membership form and paid their fees by the end of July will be removed from the membership list.

- eMembership will be abolished and replaced with Distant Membership. Anyone living more than 80km from Coffs can become a Distant Member. Distant membership will be \$10 which covers the cost of insurance.

- The newsletter will only be emailed to members (Full or Distant) and club supporters. Anyone interested in the club will be sent one newsletter but then must become a member to receive regular emails. The newsletter will still be made available on the club website.

- Membership fees for the 2021-22 year will be:

Adult Membership	\$30
Family Membership	\$40
Concession Membership	\$20
Junior Membership	free
Distant Membership	\$10

- We will be transferring our club account from the Commonwealth Bank to BCU Bank.

New Executive

Because of the pandemic it has been two years since we had an Annual General Meeting and elected a Club Executive. With the AGM to be held in July, please consider how you can help the club by taking on a role. These positions bring with them responsibilities and take some time but without people willing to take on these roles the Club can't exist. If you are interested in helping out in any capacity please make your thoughts known and you will be given all the help and encouragement you need to take on a job. The Club Executive consists of:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Club Captain
Committee (Executive plus 2)



Club Calendar

You will find the draft club calendar for the year on the next page. Make sure you keep up to date with the latest calendar - it changes every month. Note the date for the Mullet Mash has been changed as the Swansea Salmon Classic will be held on the weekend of 20th/21st/22nd August.

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

Club Calendar 2021

Here is the draft club calendar for 2021. It is provided to give you an overview of what might happen and an opportunity to plan ahead. Check the monthly newsletter or website for the latest changes.

Month	Outings	Activities
JANUARY	No outing this month Casting at Mylestom at 5.30pm on Monday 18 th .	Club Meeting at Mylestom Monday 18 th
FEBRUARY	Home Waters Saturday 20 th Family fishing day with a focus on kids fishing for bream, flathead and mullet held at Mylestom. Tasmania 28 th Jan - 8 th Feb	Club Meeting Monday 15 th Committee Meeting
MARCH	Casting Day Saturday 6 th Tuesday Casting Group resumes Tuesday 2 nd Blue Water Outing Saturday 20 th	Club Meeting Monday 15 th North Beach Bowling Club Mylestom
APRIL	Keepit Carp Trip Sunday 11 th - Wednesday 14 th Home Waters Saturday 24 th	Club Meeting Monday 19 th North Beach Bowling Club Mylestom
MAY	Fly Fishing for Trout Workshop Saturday 22 nd	Club Meeting Monday 17 th Committee Meeting Major Raffle Drawn
JUNE	Lake St Clair Friday 18 th - Sunday 20 th	Club Meeting Monday 21 st
JULY	Casting Day Saturday 10 th Woolgoolga Lake Dunmore Waters Friday 30 th to Sunday 1 st August	Annual General Meeting Monday 19 th
AUGUST	Swansea Salmon Classic Friday 20 th to Sunday 22 nd Mullet Mash Saturday 28 th	Club Meeting Monday 16 th Committee Meeting Major Raffle Drawn
SEPTEMBER	Gathering at Gumma Friday 10 th Sunday 12 th Gumma Reserve. Fishing, Casting, Fly Tying	Club Meeting Monday 20 th
OCTOBER	Home Waters Saturday 31 st Ebor Weekend Saturday 23 rd Sunday 24 th	Club Meeting Monday 18 th
NOVEMBER	Bass on the Bellinger Saturday 20 th	Club Meeting Monday 15 th Committee Meeting Major Raffle Drawn
DECEMBER	Keepit Carp Caper Saturday 11 th Sunday 12 th	No Club Meeting

Upcoming Outings

There are a few outings coming up that you will need to plan and book for as soon as possible if you want to attend.



Dunmore Waters

Dunmore Waters has been booked for the weekend 30th July to 1st August. Dunmore is a private trout fishery located near Wandsworth, 35 km north of Guyra and just west of the New England Highway.

The cost for accommodation and fishing has been reduced for our club outing to:

- Adults - \$100 per person per day
- 10 - 16 years - \$40.00 per person per day

The weekend is catered for and the cost will be around \$40 per person for food. The exact cost will be provided once final numbers are known.

This is always a very popular outing and as we restrict the numbers attending to 8 you will need to book a place quickly. You can book by contacting the Secretary or putting your name on the outing sheet at the next meeting.



Swansea Salmon Classic

If you want to try catching Australian Salmon on fly the Swansea Salmon Classic is the event for you. Hosted by the Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club, the Classic will be held this year from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd August. The base will be the Swansea Lakeside Caravan Park just south of Newcastle. This year there will be no catering so it will be left to individuals to arrange their own food.



You will need a boat, or a friend with a boat, as the Salmon move about in the channel and you need to be mobile to find them. Small surf candy style flies work well. Rods from 7 to 8 weight are about ideal.

If you are interested in going on this outing talk to anyone who has been before or read the article by Jeff Yates on page 27. Make sure you register your interest by putting your name on the outing sheet at the next meeting or getting in contact with David on 0411723221 or Allan on 0427457725.

You will need to arrange your own accommodation and if you plan to stay at the Swansea Lakeside Caravan Park you will need to book soon as it fills quickly.



Learn to Fly Fish for Trout Workshop

*By the Editor with special thanks to Jason Stratford
and David Moppett for the photographs.*

On Saturday 22nd May the Club, in conjunction with the NSW Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries, conducted a workshop for people wanting to learn to fly fish for trout. The workshop was conducted at the Dutton Trout Hatchery at Ebor where the staff went out of their way to make sure everything ran smoothly. Twenty two people registered and had a great day learning about fly fishing and trying to catch a trout. Not everyone caught a fish but everyone went away with greater skills and knowledge.



The Hatchery was an excellent venue for the workshop providing facilities and a perfect setting to enjoy a day outdoors learning to fly fish. And to top it off we had a couple of ponds filled with trout for the participants to fish at the end of the day.





The day was all about learning including learning about the role the Dutton Hatchery plays in providing trout for the New England streams and beyond. Thanks to the hatchery, nearly 1.5million rainbow trout fry are released into streams with the help of the local clubs and Acclimatisation Societies. Here Greg is stripping the eggs from a female trout before they are fertilized and put in troughs to grow. When conditions are right, it only takes three years for these fry to grow to the size of the fish in the photos on the next page.



Ben came from Port Macquarie and Anthony came from Grafton to catch these trout on fly.



Bill was happy to take this trout home to his wife for dinner.



Good to see John hasn't forgotten how to catch a trout on fly.



Alan (the correct spelling) looks happy with his first trout on fly.



Caitlin was a fast learner and soon had a trout in hand.





Ray was quick off the mark and caught the first trout of the day.





Michael is an accomplished Bass fisher and soon mastered the skills to catch a tricky trout.



Kevin soon got the hang of the fly rod and had his first trout on fly.



Doug didn't get to catch a trout - he was too busy helping out with the workshop and landing fish for others.



Teamwork in action



Greg and Anthony from the Hatchery made sure we were looked after on the day



Mel not only contributed a great deal to the organization of the day she had to double up on her role in the DPI with duties at the Hatchery .

Hello Coffs Harbour

By Anthony Heiser



My first fly fishing capture since moving to Coffs Harbour: 26 cm Bream on a white Crazy Charlie at the mouth of Deep Creek, Valla Beach.

Hello everyone, my name is Anthony, and I moved to the region after accepting a transfer from Canberra to Coffs Harbour with work. After spending 76 days in a motel room, I have finally settled in my new home in Grafton. During those 76 days, most of my fishing gear was in storage. Fortunately, I did bring a beach rod, a spin rod and a fly rod with me in the motel and I wasted no time exploring some of the local fishing opportunities.

My initial attempts at Coffs Harbour Jetty produced undersized Whiting and Bream, and a rather ugly Estuary Cobbler. My first beach fishing attempt at Park Beach was also a fail. I discovered underneath the sand was coarse gravel, which was painful on bare feet and did not let my star sinkers hold the bottom.

During March 2021, 591.7 mm of rain fell in Coffs Harbour (compared with Canberra's annual average rainfall of 616.6 mm!!!!) leading to a lot of discoloured water in the estuaries, the beaches and out to sea. So bad was the local flash flooding, that I even found a dead mullet washed up on the footpath while walking to work one morning.

Eventually, the weather improved, and I had my first successful outing at Valla Beach just north of Nambucca Heads, landing a nice feed of Bream.

I ran into the administrators of the ['Fishing, Brag Board, Mid North Coast' Facebook Page](#) while they were chasing Mangrove Jack in Coffs Creek. They were generous with their tips on local land-based fishing spots and fly fishing opportunities. The following weekend, I was landing Bream at the mouth of Deep Creek at Valla Beach and Flathead at Coffs Creek on my fly rod.

My best day was a fly fishing session at Moonee Creek where I landed my first Luderick on fly using a pink Crazy Charlie, followed by two Flathead within the next twenty minutes at the same spot. Later that afternoon, I fished Sapphire Beach to land five Swallowtail Dart on my beach rod. The following weekend, I landed another Swallowtail Dart (albeit a small one) off the surf at Moonee Beach on my fly rod.

I attended my first meeting with the [Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club](#) on 19 April 2021 and attended the trout fishing workshop at the Dutton Trout Hatchery in Ebor on 22 May 2021. The trout fishing workshop was a most enjoyable day and I finally landed a trout from the New England region. I learnt new tricks, improved existing skills and gained more confidence in fly fishing that day. I look forward to catching up with everyone again at future club meetings and events.



My first Luderick on Fly at Moonee Creek. I always wanted to catch Luderick on fly, but never expected to land one on a Crazy Charlie. This was a pink Crazy Charlie that looks like a baby nipper in the water.



Fighting over Whiting! A catch and release fail off the Coffs Harbour Jetty ended up providing a meal for the local population of Silver Gulls.



A 51 cm Flathead on the same pink Crazy Charlie at the same spot in Moonee Creek.



Dart off the Beach instead of Salmon.



A two and a half metre Bronze Whaler cruising the rocks near Boambee Beach.



Dolphins and surfers off Woolgoolga

Another Salmon Quest

By Jeff Yates

With the salmon season calendar quickly coming to a close and buoyed by success at our recent club event, Peter suggested one last trip to chase a few fish. From experience we need to hit the water before sunup and start looking for those tell-tale signs. Fish will fin on the surface with their sickle shaped dorsal fins working as a symphony, gently slicing the water surface, or the 'nervous' water with its riffled surface, in what is an otherwise flat ocean. These critical signs can easily be overlooked, but close observation, and you may be onto a large school of fish.



With Fred joining us, we launched at Blacksmiths and were soon onto our first signs of salmon, unfortunately they were in close proximity to a number of luderick fishermen, but all's fair in love and war, so a couple of casts to the fish, and we had our first of many double hook ups.

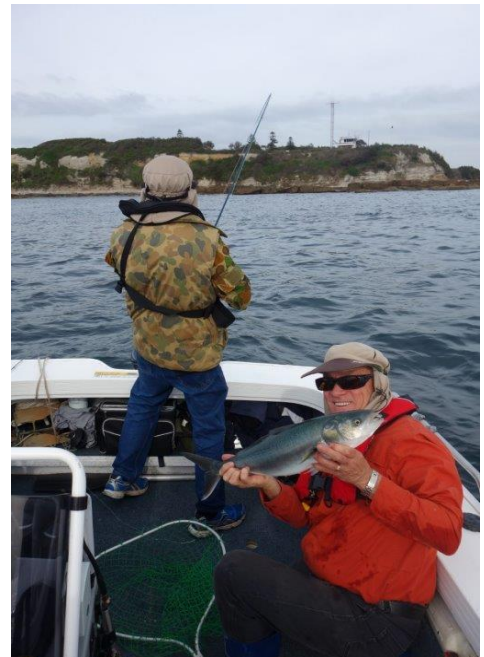
The fish decided to lead us to the open sea, hugging the breakwall on the way out. Judging by the large swirls below the fish, they had good reason to scamper. Eventually, what turned out to be acres of fish, schooled up between Moon island and the coast and were willing participants crunching our flies at regular intervals. A couple of triple hook-ups, and a bruised sternum compliments of the rod butt, added to our excitement. This session saw double figure releases for us, with the Surf Candy lethal as usual, but Fred also had his own fly, of slightly smaller proportions like him, which worked a treat. Once hooked the larger fish had you tied up for at least 15 minutes. Fred commented that he couldn't wait to go trout fishing again for a rest!



The adrenalin had stopped working and with lethargy setting in we decided to head back inside for calmer waters for a cuppa, snack and more hydration. It's difficult to drag yourself away from a hot bite, but we had the confidence that the fish would still be about when we later returned.

Mid-morning back at sea trying to pick up from where we left an hour before hand, saw active vigilance around the island area. The school

had departed, but to where? It didn't take long before their whereabouts was betrayed by a raft of 6 seals and a grey nurse shark. The salmon were busily feeding on baitfish, leaving bits and pieces throughout the 12m of water column. Meanwhile, the seals were grabbing 3 kg salmon, flinging them about like rag dolls, shredding pieces off to the waiting seagulls. The seals seemed to be more interested in the salmon row, as carcasses were being discarded.



The fishing we enjoyed earlier was repeated, but the wash from the rocks and the choppy sea, had us queasy. It's hard fighting fish from a rocking platform, all the time looking at the horizon, and trying not to look down too long while releasing the fly from the fish's mouth. Dry mouths and sick stomachs forced us to call an end to the session and the day.



What terrific sport Australian Salmon are on fly, and I can't wait for next year to share the adventure again with mates, when the fish return to the channel.





Casts That Catch Fish

How do you teach someone to fly fish and catch a trout ... in one day? That is the question that is taxing my brain as I work on a program for a workshop our club is organizing later this month. As part of our club education program we run workshops for newcomers to introduce them to fly fishing. This particular one is about learning to fly fish for trout. It is being conducted in conjunction with the NSW Department of Primary Industries Fisheries at the Dutton Trout Hatchery at Ebor. Thanks to the co-operation and help from the DPI and staff at the hatchery, not only have we an excellent venue for the workshop, at the end of the day participants will be able to fish in a pond filled with trout. My problem is to put together a program to teach these beginners to cast well enough and have the skills and knowledge to take advantage of this opportunity - all in the space of one day.

Those of you who have been fly fishing for trout for a while will know this is a mammoth task. I have been fly fishing for a few years and still don't know all the answers. What I do know is, there is a mountain of information we will need to impart and a host of skills we will need to develop before the participants at the workshop will have any chance of catching a trout. Fortunately, the club has some good instructors. My job is to put together the program for the instructors to follow so that we can achieve our goal. Deciding what to include in that program and how we are going to teach it, led me to the topic for this month's *Casting Around*. What casting skills are needed to catch that first trout on fly?

When I was thinking about a title for this month's article I couldn't go past Carl McNeil's casting DVD - "Casts That Catch Fish." Carl McNeil is a Master Casting Instructor from New Zealand and producer of the brilliant fly fishing film "Once In A Blue Moon." The casting video has excellent cinematography and beautiful scenery to help Carl to explain the essentials of fly casting. This DVD is not for those attending the workshop, but I mention it now as I don't want to upset Carl for stealing his title. If you can already cast and want to improve your casting to catch fish, this is as good as it gets when it comes to instructional DVDs. If you haven't seen it you should consider adding it to your library.

What I want to write about is not directly related to Carl's DVD. Although the casts featured in the DVD are useful in every day fishing situations and include slack line presentations, the roll cast and dealing with the wind, there is far too much to cover in a one day workshop. I want to look at the basic casts that you need to catch a trout and how you would go about teaching someone ... in a day. If you are beginner you might find this useful or if you have been fly fishing for a while, it might help the next time a friend asks you to teach them to fly fish.



The most important thing to understand about catching a trout on fly is to know that fish live in the water. You might think this is obvious but I have watched many people who make so many false casts you would think they are casting for birds. If you want to catch a fish on fly you have to get your fly on the water where it can be seen and eaten. This applies to all fish. The way you might do this for a trout can be different to other species and the way you might do this for a trout living in a stream can be different to a trout living in a lake. But at the end of the day, casts that catch fish get the fly on the water for as long as it takes for the fly to be eaten.

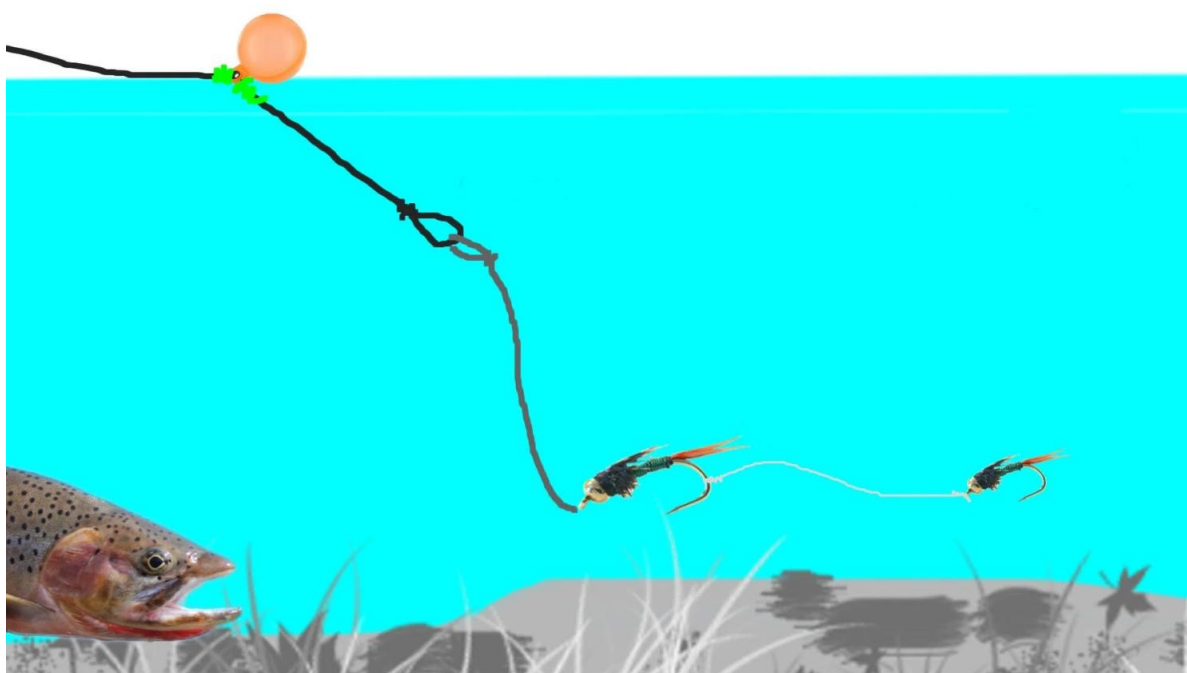
When fishing for trout there are three main types of flies used. A dry fly floats on the surface acting like a natural insect. A nymph or wet fly sinks below the surface and represents the early stage of an insect's life. A streamer sinks and is retrieved to imitate underwater animals or just attract the fish's attention. There are a variety of casts that can be used to present a dry fly, nymph or streamer. Each method has its pros and cons. My plan for the workshop is to concentrate on two approaches which I think will provide the best chance for beginners to catch a trout on fly.

My preferred method for catching trout on fly for beginners is to roll cast a nymph and indicator. In a group situation such as we will have at the workshop we don't want lots of fly rods waving around in the air. The more time the fly is in the air the more chance there is of lines tangling or someone being hit. And the more time the fly is in the air the less time it is in the water - and that's where the fish live. In this workshop situation I believe the roll cast will be the safest and most productive cast that catches fish.

A roll cast is the front half of a "normal" cast. Theoretically, it should only take half as long to master but that's not the case. Learning to roll cast well takes time and practice. If you want to know how to do it you should watch Carl's McNeil's DVD, "Cast That Catch Fish." Carl has generously put parts of the video on YouTube. You can see him teaching the roll cast here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRaCV5c63mY>. Learning to roll cast involves all the basics of learning to cast and is not just for beginners.

The fly of choice for this type of fishing is a nymph. Most nymphs are tied to sink. Trout eat 90% of their food below the surface. When you have limited time you need all the odds in your favour so it makes sense to use a sinking fly. Trout will look to the surface to eat a floating insect but there are not always insects hatching. If nothing is happening on the surface there could be plenty of feeding action going on below and a well presented nymph could be the answer.

The final step in my preferred approach for teaching beginners is to add an indicator. Indicators are just small floats in various forms to hold the nymph off the bottom and "indicate" when a fish has the fly in its mouth. Americans call these "bobbers." Some purist disapprove of this method and believe the only true way to catch a trout is with a dry fly. For beginners, using an indicator is the easiest and quickest way I know for them to see when a trout takes their fly.



Talking of purists there are some in the fly fishing community who believe the only proper way to catch a trout is with a dry fly. It's the way I prefer to fish but if I want to increase my chances of catching a fish I know I have to be pragmatic. Presenting a dry fly to a feeding trout is what most people have in mind when they take up fly fishing. Watching loops roll back and forth from the rod tip and a fly land lightly on the water to be eaten by a trout is how most people imagine it all happens. Getting to the stage where you can catch a trout on a dry fly takes time. I won't be using this method at the workshop as we don't have the time to develop the casting skills and knowledge to make this work. Besides, the trout in the ponds at the hatchery rarely rise to eat insects.

Sometimes trout are not in the mood for eating nymphs and we need another approach. Spin fishers know this when they cast and retrieve a lure through the water to catch a trout's attention. Fly fishers can do this too by casting wet flies and stripping them back through the water. The favoured fly for this type of fishing is a woolly buggler which is a generic wet fly pattern which seems to have the right combination of shape, size and action to get trout interested. Stripping woolly buggers is my second favoured cast that catches fish. It takes a little longer to learn to make false casts and shoot line far enough, and it can be a little more dangerous in a group situation, but it does work.



After we have spent the morning teaching the participants my favoured casts that catch fish we will be setting them loose on the ponds at the Hatchery to try and catch a trout. I am writing this in preparation for the workshop but by the time you get to read it, the workshop will be all over. You should be able to see how successful, or not, this approach has been by looking at our Facebook Group or the report in the newsletter. We will be doing more of these workshops in the future and if I have to do the organization I will once again be advocating my two favoured approaches. There are casts that catch everyone's attention but I want to teach the casts that catch fish.



Casts that Catch Fish....ermen

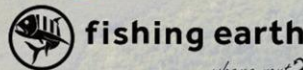


The 2021 AFO Hinchinbrook Challenge will be held on the 27th and 28th of August 2021. The event is a fly only fishing tournament held in the pristine Hinchinbrook Channel. Teams of two or three anglers compete for the title of being Australia's best saltwater fly fishing angler and team!

Entry fee of \$240 per person will cover three evening meals at the Lucinda Point Hotel/Motel and a sample bag from our sponsors listed. Event briefing is at the Lucinda Point Hotel/Motel at 7pm on Thursday 26th August.

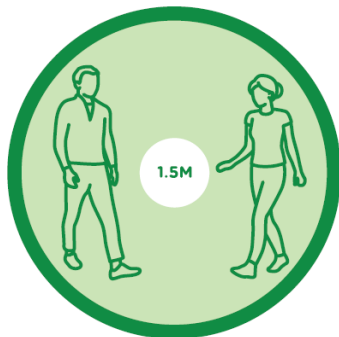
Nominations open 6am, 30th June.

For tournament updates and information on our sponsors visit <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057686340485>. go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BNZSW> to nominate your team.



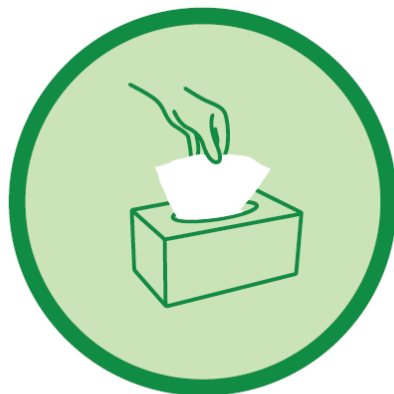
Covid-19 Safety Policy

To ensure the safety and well being of all our members and the community you are asked to abide by the following guidelines whenever we meet:



Practise physical distancing.
Where possible, stay 1.5m apart.

- If members have any flu like symptoms they are requested not to attend club activities. (We won't ask you to complete a declaration form, as many groups are doing, but will trust you to make the right decision if you are in doubt).



Stay at home and
self-isolate if you are unwell.

- The sharing of equipment should be avoided where possible and frequent use of hand sanitizer is encouraged. Sanitizer will be available at all club activities.

- During this time many people are refraining from shaking hands and hugging. If you are a gregarious person you might want to check the body language of the person you are approaching to gauge their feelings on this matter. Not shaking hands or touching during this time shouldn't be seen as being unfriendly.



Wash your hands regularly
with soap and water.

- You must register and sign in with your phone number for all club activities. If you have the COVIDSafe app active that would be another safeguard.
- When food and drink is part of a club activity you should consider bringing your own crockery and cutlery. For the immediate future, the club will be using disposables.

BE COVIDSAFE

Our Supporters

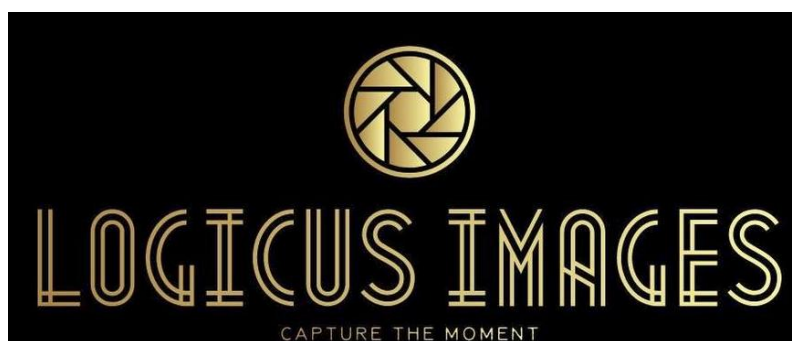
These people have all helped our club in one way or another. When you are looking for products and services make sure you consider them first



Flies by Fedeles



<http://flytyerman.blogspot.com>



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. If paying membership after December fees will be reduced by 50%.

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

2. **By cheque** posted to:

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



3. Direct deposit:

BSB 062-678

Account Number: 10333424

Name: Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc

Reference: Your surname

If you are making an electronic deposit please send an email to ccffc@tpg.com.au to indicate you have paid as we do not have online access to our account. When depositing make sure you include your surname in the Reference section. e.g. **Ekert Membership.**

Club Contact Address

Our official email address is ccffc@tpg.com.au.

Our mailing address is:

The Secretary

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

11 Butterfly Close

Boambee East

NSW 2452

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. Currently there are 323 members in this group.

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

Membership Form

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 Secretary.
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
11 Butterfly Close
Boambee East
NSW 2452

Direct Deposit:

BSB: 062-678
Account No: 10333424
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc
Reference: **Your surname**

Notes

Club Membership Definitions:

1. Concession membership is available to; Senior Cardholders, 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.

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 ccffc@tpg.com.au.
2. Can be hand-written and handed to the Secretary at a meeting or event.
3. Can be posted to the 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 in their Membership Form.