



The Red Tag Fly Fishers' Club Inc.

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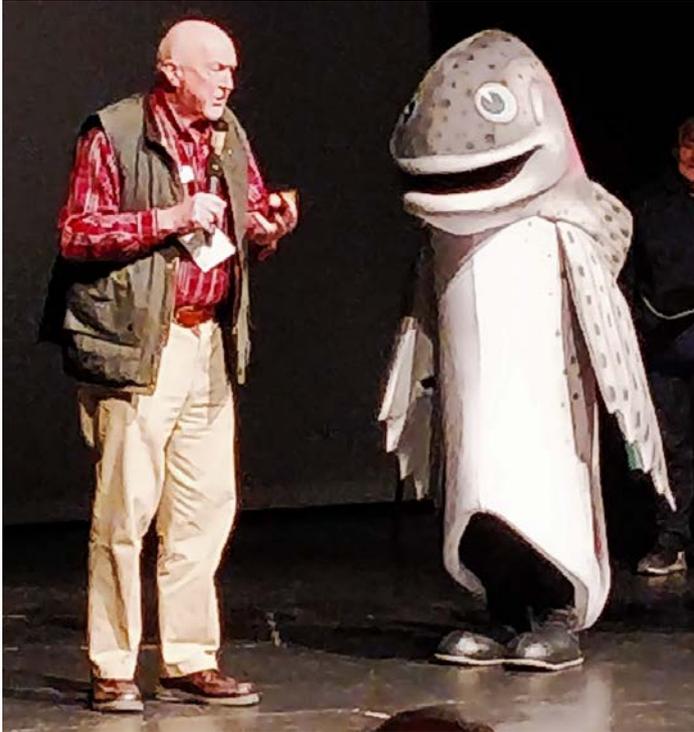


Tight Lines - September 2018

The Monthly Newsletter for the Red Tag Fly Fishers' Club

Wild Trout 2018 Conference

"That'll learn ya" -unknown



Rex with a fish that was not 'kiss and release'.

Darebin Performing arts centre hosted the 2018 Wild Trout Conference, with over 400 in attendance, the event covered a wide range of topics in detail. In future issues we will share much of the content but we start this issue with:

Philip Weigall's Top Ten Tips for fishing:

1. **Think where to go** – really think (consider weather, stocking history, location – are there other options within easy travel time?)
2. **Don't ignore player comfort:** the only distraction should be the fish so avoid being too hot/cold, hungry/thirsty and plan accordingly.
3. **Learn to tie knots:** leader-to-tippet and tippet-to-fly knots until you can do them in your sleep with frost-bitten fingers. A really important skill to master. Don't avoid changing flies because you lack the confidence to tie knots eg Woolly Bugger to a Royal Wulff.

4. Once on the water... **think about what trout really want:** food and/or security so they will be cruising in locations which may not be accessible to you.
5. **Learn to cast fast,** to cast accurately and to cast off either shoulder: don't worry too much about distance. In lakes fish are always moving so pick-up and cast quickly.
6. **Worry less about fly choice** and more about what your fly is doing: make your fly do what it's supposed to do. Presentation is more important than fly choice. Trout see line drag.
7. **If in doubt strike!** As soon as a fish takes your fly they will try and spit it out again so beat them to it.
8. **Land the fish:** avoid being snapped off. Think about the strength of your leader and tippet, how heavy can you get away with not how light.
9. **Never stop learning:** keep an open mind when it comes to techniques, gear and flies and fishing spots, they are always changing.
10. **HAVE FUN:** it may sound obvious but if you are not enjoying your fishing then why do it? We are not at war with the fish.



Having fun!

Tranquil Rises

"Lay me down in the cold cold ground"

Day 1 Red Tag travelled again to Flowerdale for a continuation of the development program. It was not for the faint of heart. For the first time Red Tagger's booked a cabin and stayed on to tackle an early morning rise.

Peter Coles got off to a flyer, and nabbed 2 rainbows before lunch. David Honeybone, had a hit with his now traditional signature 'black wooly bugger' on a lake' combination. Nikki Duckstein was helping him net it, but it snapped the line in the brambles and dove deep. By all accounts it was big!

The big lake promised much as the sun began to set, monster Murray Cod reside here, and the bow waves, snapped lines and the sound of a large rise suggested something wicked this way comes. It was not to be. As the cold and darkness set in, casts into the abyss were all that was on offer. News came through that the Flowerdale Hotel kitchen closed at 8:00pm, so we all piled into Chris' motor for the short drive down pub. Pleased to discover at dinner, that the table had an over representation of Magpies supporters, and some discussion ensued on the outcomes and permutations of round 23. Says a lot about the day's fishing success, when football is the topic de jour.



Back at camp, the cabin fire was stoked, for an hour of banter. Chris and I declined the cabin comforts, he to his swag, me to my hammock.



Day 2 Awoke to a scene of steam arising from the large pond, with a heavy frost having iced all around. Fishing for me proved even more elusive than day one.

I scored nothing both days, with the only consolation being better fisher folk than me did little better. Staring into a turbid brown pond willing a sign of movement, for 30 minutes is an incredibly tranquil inducing experience.



Thanks

To **Chris Peterson** who recently dropped off some fly tying goodies that he is no longer using. There were a number of furs, feathers and bits and pieces, including rare piece of **polar bear fur!** Looking forward to the inuit ice fishing pattern.

The club can always use fly tying materials and if other members have excess materials and/or equipment we welcome any donation.



Victor H. Wastell Trophy 2018

Proudly Sponsored by *Mayfly Tackle* 





Saturday 20th October

Fishing Times: 12am – 5pm Saturday

Venues: Cairn Curran, Moorabool, Tullaroop, Hepburn Lagoon, Newlyn, Dean, Cosgrove's & Lake Wendouree

Registration: Friday 19th October

Entry Fee: \$30 includes Dinner on Saturday night

Rules:

- > All fish MUST be measured by length and NOT weight
- > All fish must be photographed on a 'brag mat' or size sticker (brag mats will be supplied)

Accommodation: Creswick Calambeen Lake Caravan Park 12 Cushing Avenue, Creswick 3363 Ph: 5345 2411

Mention this competition when booking for a 10% discount on accommodation.

For more information contact Gary on 0418 568 953

Major Prizes for the winning Trout:

- ❖ Replica of the V.H Wastell Trophy
- ❖ Innovator Fly Rod, Orvis Hydros Fly Reel, Scientific Anglers Mastery Fly line








Red Tag Clubrooms Break and Enter.

It was a dark and stormy night...



In an act of idiocy and desperation, the Red Tag clubroom was vandalised by person or persons unknown, presumably looking for cash or drugs. (obviously they knew little of the value of goods inside the hut, or online selling for that matter).

So aside from the inconvenience of the big clean up afterwards, (where one member was seriously injured in a fall), the Red Tag Club dodged a bullet.

It was a reminder of how vulnerable and isolated the space is and how difficult it is to protect.

Club Room Relocation

"We are moving, we are moving!"

-Eddie Murphy, Trading Places 1983.

In a lively discussion on Wednesday September 5th, Red Tag Members voted overwhelmingly to endorse the move to the East Ivanhoe Bowls Club.

The decision has been made after years of considered deliberation and exhaustive discussion with the key stakeholders associated with the park and its future development.

A sub-committee looked at a number of venues, and the bowls club was a stand out candidate.

Discussion with Parks Victoria and responsible parties for the proposed sports development is ongoing. Red Tag are hoping to include topics such as bbq facilities and adequate lighting of the practice pools as part of an upgrade to the area.

The move will bring much needed security, (see break in story) and amenity for members attending future activities.

So a thank you to everyone who has been involved in all the discussions over the years, and those that brought this saga to a resolution.

An exciting chapter in the club's history begins.

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The Library Report

Too many books, too little time.



No new books this month but the subscription to FlyLife magazine has begun and the first issue (Spring 2018 No. 93) has arrived.

Contents include:

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE — Leighton Adem shares a lesson in Euro nymphing

FIORDLAND SALT FLY — Nick Reygaert tackles New Zealand's southern fiords

THE YOUTH ACADEMY — Joshua Hutchins, Lucas O'Sullivan & Thomas Cramp join forces

RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME — Brendan Turriff enjoys mixed success in Tasmania's Western Lakes

GETTING THE JOB DONE — Craig Rist benefits from a heavier rod on the flats

TARUARAU RAINBOWS, NZ — Greg French explores the Hawke's Bay backcountry in

THE HUMBLE FLATHEAD — Shane Bretz introduces a perfect target for beginners

BUSH CREEK HUT — Stu Hastie solves a mystery in the wilds of New Zealand

HUNTING THE FLATS — Piero Bertocchi profiles Top End guide Graeme Williams

KEEPING MELBOURNE'S SECRETS — Chris Fiddes reflects on the allure of secret waters

Feel free to borrow and just write it up in the loans book.

If any members have back issues of FlyLife they would like to donate to the library please let me know together with the year and issue number.

Many thanks to Nigel Parker for his post about the This American Life podcast concerning the book "The Feather Thief: beauty, obsession and the natural history

heist of the century" by Kirk Wallace Johnson (Hutchinson 2018). I won't add too much more about this suffice to say I'm reading it now and a copy will be added to the library in due course. It's a ripper. -D.H.

The Red Tag A to Z of fly fishing terms and expressions

Each month we will attempt to bring you a semi-serious exploration of the fly fishing alphabet. By no means comprehensive...

A is for:

Acheron River: part of the Goulburn Broken catchment, in the state of Victoria. The headwaters of the Acheron River rise on the north-western slopes of the Yarra Ranges, below The Knobs and descend to flow into the Goulburn. The flow is generally north by west and is joined by nine tributaries including the Steavenson, Little Steavenson, and Little rivers, before reaching the Goulburn River at Acheron, south of Alexandra. Holds good head of brown and rainbow trout. Best times to fish are warm days from December to April (Fly fishing NE Victoria, Weigall, 2014).

Action: a term used to describe the flexing characteristics of a particular rod, generally broken into three categories: fast, medium, and slow. Fast-action rods tend to be stiff, require high line speeds to load, and can perform well against the wind and with larger flies; medium-action rods flex further into the body of the rod, require less force to load, and are typically used in freshwater fishing; slow-action rods flex nearly to the butt, load at short distances, and are most often used for dry-fly fishing.

Allbright Knot: A common reliable knot for joining lines of greatly unequal diameters or different materials such as monofilament to braided line. A great knot for tying backing to fly line.

Antron: a synthetic yarn material made of long sparkly fibers used for many aspects of fly tying including wrapped bodies, spent wings, and trailing shucks. Is also used for dubbing material.

Arm: important for casting. See also shoulder and hand. If missing seek medical advice.

Attractor: an impressionistic fly pattern, such as a Royal Wulff, tied with certain fish-enticing characteristics, such as hot colors (fluorescent orange, pink, chartreuse, etc.), mylar (silver, gold, and clear pearlescent). Meant to elicit a strike rather than to realistically imitate an insect.



Fly Tying Nights

Come along and watch the fur and feathers fly.

Wednesday 12th September:
7:15pm

Intermediate/Advanced Class

Pattern: 007 Nymph

Instructor: T.B.A.



007- Licensed to Catch Fish

Information:

“Ken Orr came up with this design in 1988 and we should be eternally grateful as the trout cannot refuse it once presented in front of them”-adrenaline flies.

Materials:

-  **Body** : Black seals fur in larger sizes, finer fur such as Possum in the smaller sizes
-  **Thorax**: As above
-  **Wing Case** : Crow wing fibres
-  **Tail** : Hot orange craft fur or similiar
-  **Rib** : Royal Blue wire or fine tinsel

Tuesday 21st August 7:15pm

Beginners & Interested Night:

Pattern: Red Tag

Instructor: T.B.A



Killer Bug Pattern
[Youtube Link](#)



Crane Fly lava

Information:

The grayling killer bug, was developed in the 1930s by Frank Sawyer, the same man who developed the pheasant tail nymph. It replicates the crane fly lava as well as other scuds.

Materials:

-  **Body** : Wool
-  **Body#2**: Wire
-  **Head**: Variable, Bead or Thread
-  **Rib** : Optional, twined wool segments the body.

Hi Red Tag members,

On Monday the 10th @ 10:00am onwards...

We are seeking volunteers to assist with some initial sorting and packing up of club items in preparation for the relocation to EIBC.

We will organise lunch for volunteers and there will be boxes and tape to assist with the process.



Netted Pics

(#bragging rights! via @Team App.)



Looks like we're gonna need a bigger boat!

August

The clock is ticking, everyone is chomping at the bit to hit the streams. Here are some snaps prior to season opening.







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Red Tag Contacts:

President: Tony Ryan

Vice President: Vin McCaughey

Secretary: Bill Jackson
t: 0414 254 229 e:billjackson@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Don Amour

Newsletter Contributions:

Know a good guaranteed pattern?

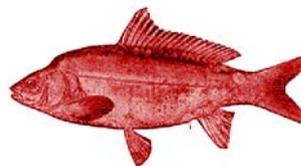
Or a place where they are jumping onto the hook?

Then drop us a line!

No story, (or fish) too big or too small.

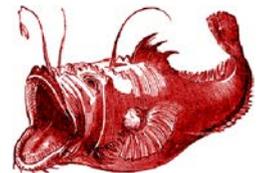
Email: redtagflyfishers@gmail.com or post into team-app with a brief description.

Even better, have a chat with the editors, unlike the fish; we don't bite.



David Honeybone

(Cyprinus carpio)



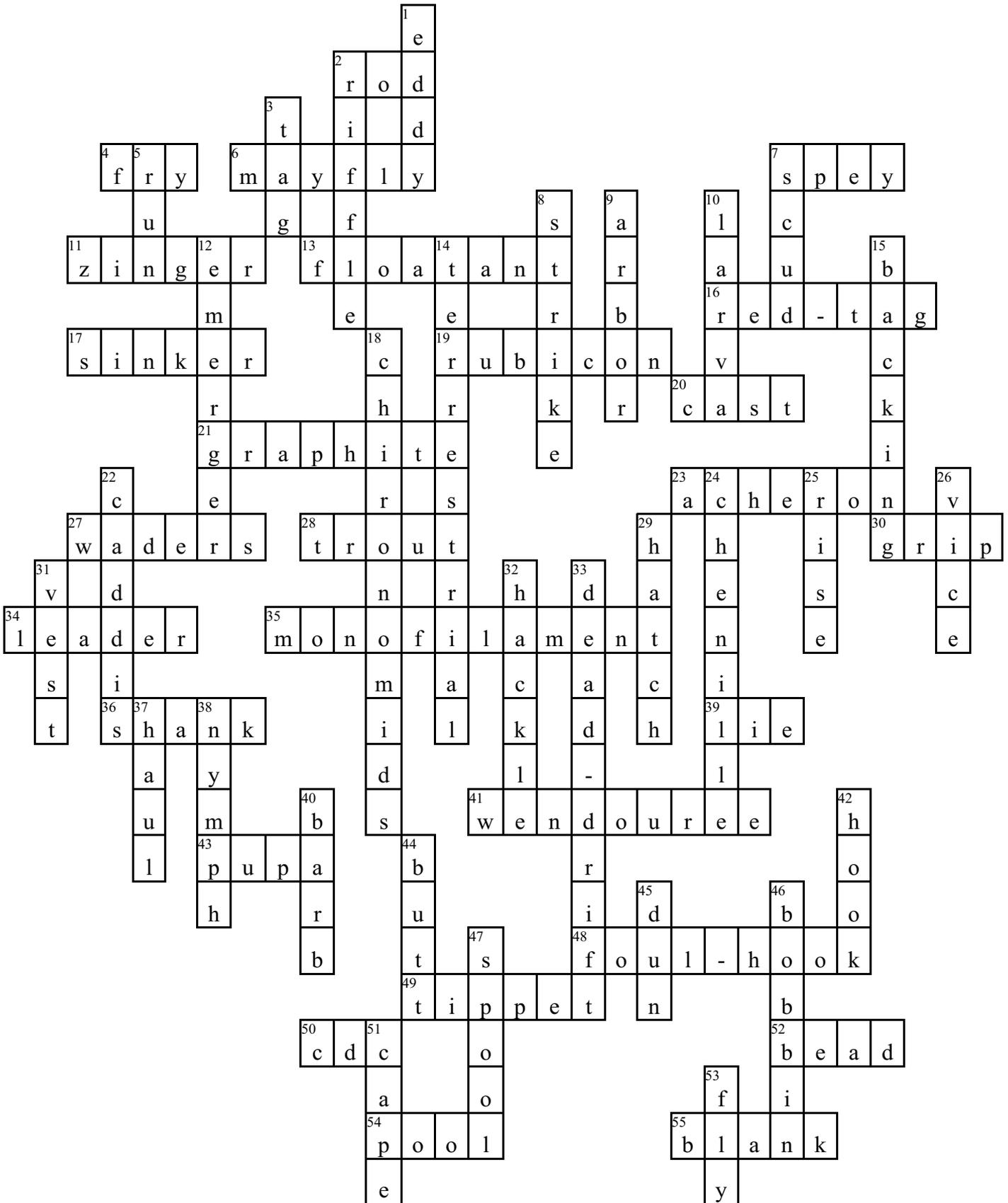
Andrew Rodda

(Lophius piscatorius)

A personal shout out to **Rick Dobson** at Aussie Angler, who was very giving with his time to explain some pointers around the art of fly fishing for me. New members should realise how keen and happy people are to offer encouragement and advice.

Thanks.

Red Tag Winter Crossword



Across

2. A long thin object essential for fishing.
4. The first stage of a fish after hatching from an egg.
6. The most commonly imitated aquatic insects worldwide.
7. A method of casting using special two-handed rods and a modified roll cast.

Down

1. A section of water that is less disturbed than the surrounding water.
2. A quickened flow of water over smaller rocks or gravel.
3. The end of the line that is used to tie a knot.
5. A place where the water comes in between a bank and a rock

11. A retractable device used to hang necessary items off your fly vest.
 13. A water-proofing salve or cream.
 16. The name of a great fly fishing club.
 17. Often made of lead.
 19. Crossed by Caesar in 49BC.
 20. The motion you make when you collectively 'throw' a fly rod, reel and line.
 21. The most popular rod-building material in use today.
 23. The River of Woe (Greek Mythology)
 27. Keeping your lower half dry.
 28. Oncorhynchus
 30. The cork handle of a fly rod.
 34. The section of monofilament line between the fly line and the fly.
 35. A clear, supple nylon filament used in all types of fishing.
 36. The long straight part of the hook.
 39. The areas in a river or lake where fish hang out.
 41. 'The lake of 1000 casts'.
 43. The transition stage between the larva and the adult.
 48. To hook a fish anywhere but in the mouth.
 49. The smallest diameter section and where the fly is tied onto the leader.
 50. Cul de Canard (abbr.)
 52. A small solid component of some fly patterns.
 54. A segment of a river or stream featuring slower currents and increased depths.
 55. A hollow rod.
7. A small freshwater shrimp-like crustacean.
 8. The attempt a fish makes to eat a fly, successfully or not.
 9. The center part of a fly reel where first backing and then line is wound.
 10. The immature, aquatic, growing stage of the caddis.
 12. When the nymph reaches the surface and the adult hatches out.
 14. Land-based insects that often become food for fish.
 15. An added braided line that connects the reel's spool to the fly line.
 18. Insects commonly known as midges.
 22. One of the three most important aquatic insects imitated by fly fishers.
 24. a fuzzy rope-like material used for creating the bodies of artificial flies.
 25. The patterns a trout makes as it takes a fly.
 26. Used to hold a hook while creating a pattern.
 29. A large number of flies of the same species.
 31. A fly fisher's wearable tackle box.
 32. A feather, usually from the neck area of a chicken.
 33. A perfect float in which the fly is traveling at the same pace as the current.
 37. A pull on the fly line with the non-casting hand to increase the line speed.
 38. The immature form of insects.
 40. The backward facing projection cut into a hook.
 42. The foundation upon which the fly is tied.
 44. The end of the rod near the reel.
 45. First stage in the adult mayfly's life cycle.
 46. A fly-tying tool used for holding thread.
 47. The revolving part of the fly reel that holds the backing and the fly line.
 51. Part of a bird skin used for tying flies.
 53. A hand-tied artificial lure imitating natural insects.