



# Fly Line By Line

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**Official Monthly Publication of Yarra Valley Fly Fishers Inc.**

**YARRA VALLEY FLY FISHERS INC.**

**Lillydale Lake Reserve**

**P.O. Box 266**

**Lilydale 3140**

# YVFF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Vice President	Secretary
Lynton Reid	Paul Pavone	Paul Pavone
Finance – Treasurer	Editor	Administration
Ray Malins	Owen Lloyd	Paul Pavone
Asst Treasurer	Club Activities	Stream Craft

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**\*Front Page**

**Lynton and Stan**

**On the Rankitaiki**

**North Island New Zealand**

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WEB SITE

## **FACEBOOK**

Yarra Valley Fly Fishers Facebook

## **MEET UP**

Awin Stephen : Meetup.com at :-  
Yarra Valley Fly Fishers Meetup

## PRESIDENTS PAGE : APRIL 2020

In my report to the club at the 12th of March General Meeting I raised the Corona Virus as a considerable threat to the club which has now become a reality and a lot has happened in the last two weeks with the possibility that we all will soon be in a total lockdown for several weeks.

We are only at the start of dealing with this unseen threat and a complete change in our way of life even worse than the first and second world wars with the future consequences still largely unknown.

The committee has resolved that if any club members need help in any way that where possible they will try to assist the club members even if it is only as much as setting up home deliveries of necessities.

With regard to our club the Executive Committee has decided that we have no alternative but to postpone all club activities until advice from authorities quite clearly states that it is safe to resume normal activities.

Our club magazine has now become very important as a means of communication to and between club members and Owen will keep the magazine running during this crisis to enable members to share not just fishing news but also personal information as to how you are all surviving.

**Owen relies on members contributing fishing articles of interest and photos and in the current circumstances any articles of any sort funny or otherwise would be much appreciated. Let's make the magazine a real way for members to communicate with each other.**

As to club activities all club activities have been suspended including Fly Tying, Casting, Club Trips and Stream Craft. Also there will be no Committee meetings or General meetings but the committee will remain in touch by email to ensure any issues that arise will be properly dealt with.

There will be no organised Sunday casting and the clubroom will be closed but at the moment club members could still practice and maybe have a long distance chat with others but remember the rules on social distancing as we definitely do not want to lose any club members to this unseen and insidious threat to us all.

Potential sponsors have all been notified that any approaches to them regarding sponsoring the club are postponed until further notice. Guest speakers engaged for general meetings have also been cancelled.

Bunning's have notified the club that all BBQ's are cancelled until further notice and have provided the club with a \$500.00 gift voucher in compensation for the loss of income which the committee has used to purchase large eskies instead of borrowing them from club members.

Please keep safe and well so we can all keep fishing and look back on this as an unpleasant once in a lifetime experience.

Lynton Reid

President

# Yarra Valley Fly Fishers Inc.

## Monthly General Meeting Minutes - 12 March 2020

Start 8:10 pm

Speaker Vanessa Spark Maritime Safety.

Apologies: George Zanin, Tony Borrack

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

In February I wished all members a belated happy and healthy new year with many fish both large and small coming to your nets over the year. We now have the Corona virus as a considerable threat to the club and the health of each club member.

I would like a consensus from club members as to how they want the club to deal with this problem both in the immediate future and in the coming months as it appears it may be up to 6 months before we see the end of it.

The committee is in place to plan, organise and guide the club over the next 12 months but we need input from all members to help the committee achieve the outcomes that members want and the committee needs your input to enable the club to fulfil your needs

I am feeling refreshed as I have just returned from a week fishing the Rangatitikei River which included a helicopter trip. The river is the longest river in the north island NZ. The fishing and the scenery in the unique river gorge up to 150 metres deep was spectacular with numerous rainbows caught up to 7lbs and lost over 10lbs and a few browns. If you want more info. just ask me or Ross Machar.

Ray Malins has ideas for several more trips but we also need club members input to help him provide trips at locations which meet everybody's needs. The last trip to Noojee was a great success. See the trip board for the next trip to Eildon and for upcoming trips.

Trevor Jacobsen offered to do an impromptu stream craft session on the Noojee trip which was a great success and much appreciated by members. Learning about above and below water bugs in a stream or lake can greatly improve your ability to select the right fly and your catch rates.

Lionel C is still training casting instructors with Ray Malins now ready to teach, and hopefully by April we can start formal casting instruction courses for new club members. Informal casting instruction is generally available every Sunday morning.

Also on the 4th Sunday of each month the committee has organised for a sausage sizzle BBQ to be held for members at the end of casting practice. This could also be a possible time for a members market to dispose of excess fishing gear yet to be organised.

We have forwarded introductory letters to 14 possible sponsors and Tuckyin Choy and myself will be approaching them over the next few weeks to discuss sponsorship in detail.

Dates to place in your diaries

Club trip next weekend

Bunning's BBQ Fund raiser Saturday the 4th of April

Guest Speaker April Rick Dobson from Aussie Angler

Lynton Reid President

Secretary's report:

Correspondence in

VR Fish

VFFA February newsletter

CVFFC First meeting minutes 2020 Marysville.

Go fish Nagambie

Vic and Tas Fishing Monthly

CBA Refund cheque  
The Healthy Male magazine  
Maroondah News  
FlyLife news  
Reel life Fish and Game NZ  
Mending casts Inc  
Ovens River Challenge 28-29 March  
GVFF Centre promo

Correspondence out  
Fly Tying Course completion certificates for Dennis

Treasurer's Report: Available to members. No significant changes.

Marketing-  
Shirts \$50 Pants \$65 available.  
Fund raising Bunnings BBQs – first is 4 April 20 – Volunteers required  
New DVDs available.  
Kids come try organising beginning.

Media: Awin will not be able to continue so help with Facebook, Website and other social media is needed from the members.

Membership currently 56 financial members.

Stream craft on trips, please let Ray B and Ray M know your coming in advance. Please continue to check the whiteboard in the Bailey Room for trips.

Fly Tying.  
Chronimids none. New patterns coming.

Casting: Instructors available, come down and join in.

Trips : Upcoming Goulburn and tributaries. Check the whiteboard. Noojee fished well.

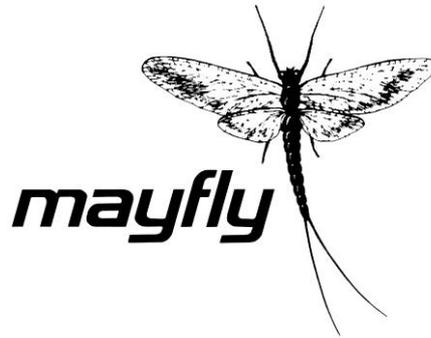
Club Room extension – Lynton still following up with Council.

Fishing reports : Toorongo River fishing well. Ray fished the Yarra River. Craig fished the Rubicon. Paul fished the Little River.

General Business: FlyLine Byline – Stories required please.

Meeting Closed : 9:45pm

**Next Meeting : To Be Advised**



Mayfly Tackle Pty Ltd imports and distributes a wide range of fly fishing related products including Scientific Anglers fly lines and accessories, Orvis Fly Fishing products, Korkers, Ross reels, Innovator rods and accessories, Fulling Mill Flies and accessories, Hanak Competition, Tiemco hooks and accessories, Nautilus Fly Reels and more.



To view the full range of products and find your local stockist visit:

**Web:** [www.mayflytackle.com.au](http://www.mayflytackle.com.au)

**Craig's Winning 37cm Brown Caught Euro Nymphing  
with a Bead Head on The Rubicon  
Club Goulburn Trip**



**George's Rubicon Brown**



**George's Brown measured 31cm and was a brown trout caught on a  
Foam Grasshopper fly in the Rubicon River on the Goulburn Club Trip.**

# **TARATA FISHAWAY ON THE RANGITAIKI NEW ZEALAND**

Graeme Smith ex club member loved fishing the Rangitaiki River at Tarata Fishaway which is a good 3 hour drive from Wellington. Smithy had been trying to convince me to fish there after convincing club member Ross Machar to fish there with him for the last few years. Eventually I weakened and booked to go with another ex club member Stan Edgely. Unfortunately Graham has become extremely unwell and was unable to go, if you have time please ring him and cheer him up.

The Rangitaiki is everything he promised me. The river is the longest river in the North Island NZ and the fishing by raft and the scenery in the unique river gorge up to 150 metres deep was spectacular with numerous rainbows caught up to 7lbs and lost over 10lbs and a few browns. A helicopter trip one day was the icing on the cake with numerous large fish in each pool some well over 10 lbs which I and Stan managed to lose in various ways

I lost count of the number of fish caught but between Stan and myself but it was between 50 and 60 fish with the majority being large rainbows which were fighting fit, pulled like steam trains and if you tried to hold them straightened hooks, pulled hooks or broke off which happened to me several times.

The deep river gorge is largely inaccessible by foot or vehicle and rafting in a French hi tech rubber ducky was a fantastic way to fish the river with numerous stops at long shingle beaches on the inside of sweeping bends with a rock cliff face often 40 to 60 meters high 10 to 15 meters away on the other side of the river which on a few occasions because of undercutting resulted in 100's of tons of rock (scary stuff) almost hanging over your head.

We were fortunate to be fishing during a period when there was a large hatch of vine hoppers and numerous large fish were feeding in the drop off currents and bubble lines hard up against the undercut rock face which made it easy to spot them but harder to get a drag free cast under the overhang good enough to catch them.

I had done some research thanks to Graham and tied 24 vine hoppers which I thought were a reasonable copy of the pictures on the internet which Stephen the guide took a fancy to as they lasted 6 times longer than his commercially tied flies; and sharing these with Stan we caught numerous fish on them and ran out on the last day.

We fished exclusively with 6 weight rods floating lines and on some fussy fish tippets down to 5X. The best flies for Stan and myself were the vine hoppers, grey para adams, the occasional blowfly and green or brown cicadas. Ross and Tony Buckland (of Stumpys Pond) who had no vine hoppers used cicadas, Para Adams, woolly buggers and anything else that would catch a fish.

The fully serviced accommodation was fantastic with 3 separate bedrooms, lounge dining and fully equipped kitchen. Two outside decks and a spa were also included with a fantastic view up the river gorge.

Dining of an evening was in the main house dining room with home cooked meals. As Tarata is a good half hour from the nearest town Taihape (same as the fly) you need to stock up on nibbles and drinks. All in all one of the best fishing trips I have had.

Lynton Reid.



**Stan's Lovely Brown**



**Stephen's (Guide) Nice Rainbow**



**Stumpy's Looking Happy**



**Tony Buckland's North Island Trout**

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

Wednesday 25th March 2020

Stage 2 Corona virus restrictions are in place so I'm off fishing!

Passing through Lilydale on my way over the Black Spur a roadside sign tells me the road is closed passed the Maroondah Dam. Dam!

A change of plan is required, another valley and another set of streams. No problems as we are blessed with fishable rivers but the challenge as always is to make the right choice.

A stop at the Bakery for breakfast and to buy lunch, only 4 people allowed in the shop, pay by card, don't touch anything!

By 9:30 I'm parked, not another soul in sight and a quick check of the stream reveals low clear cold water that looks "fishy". Having broken my BOA lace on my wading boots last trip I'm wearing an old pair of lace up Bites boots that feel odd, not a great start. I pulled out my 2 weight Stalker Glide loaded with a 3 weight fwf Stalker line.

The first run is deep and shaded so I've tied on a mayfly emerger and a size 14 nymph on a dropper. Nothing.

Moving up stream to a great pool with a bubble line, feeding lie on the right and a prime lie on the left. Nothing. Fly changes, smaller flies, take off the nymph, still nothing. Moving up stream again, not even spooking anything. It's time to move to new water.

There's a small stream I only fish a couple of times a season, Mystery Creek. I tie on a palmered red tag size 14 and gink it up to float high. The water is discoloured but clear and in the second pool a splashy take brings a smile. Further up the pool a beautifully coloured little brown enthusiastically smashes the fly and hangs on.

A quick snap and release. The next pools are empty but the last pool produced another splashing take that didn't stick.

Happy to have caught a fish, the walk back to the car was better than the previous river.

Here are some pics of a small stream.

Please look after yourselves and stay safe and if anyone needs support please let any of the Committee know and we can help we're possible.

The club activities may be suspended but we're still here for members who need us.

Paul Pavone

[secretary@yvff.com.au](mailto:secretary@yvff.com.au)



Mystery Creek



Socially Distanced Trout

# Fly of the Month



## Comparadun

Hook: Standard Dry Fly Hook in sizes 12-16

Thread: Preferably an 8/0 or 6/0 because of the Deer Hair

Dubbing: Standard dry fly colours to match the hatch.

Rib: Fine copper wire or flashabou

Wing: Fine Deer Hair – preferably costal hair from summer coat

Tail or Shuck: Fibettes or Antron

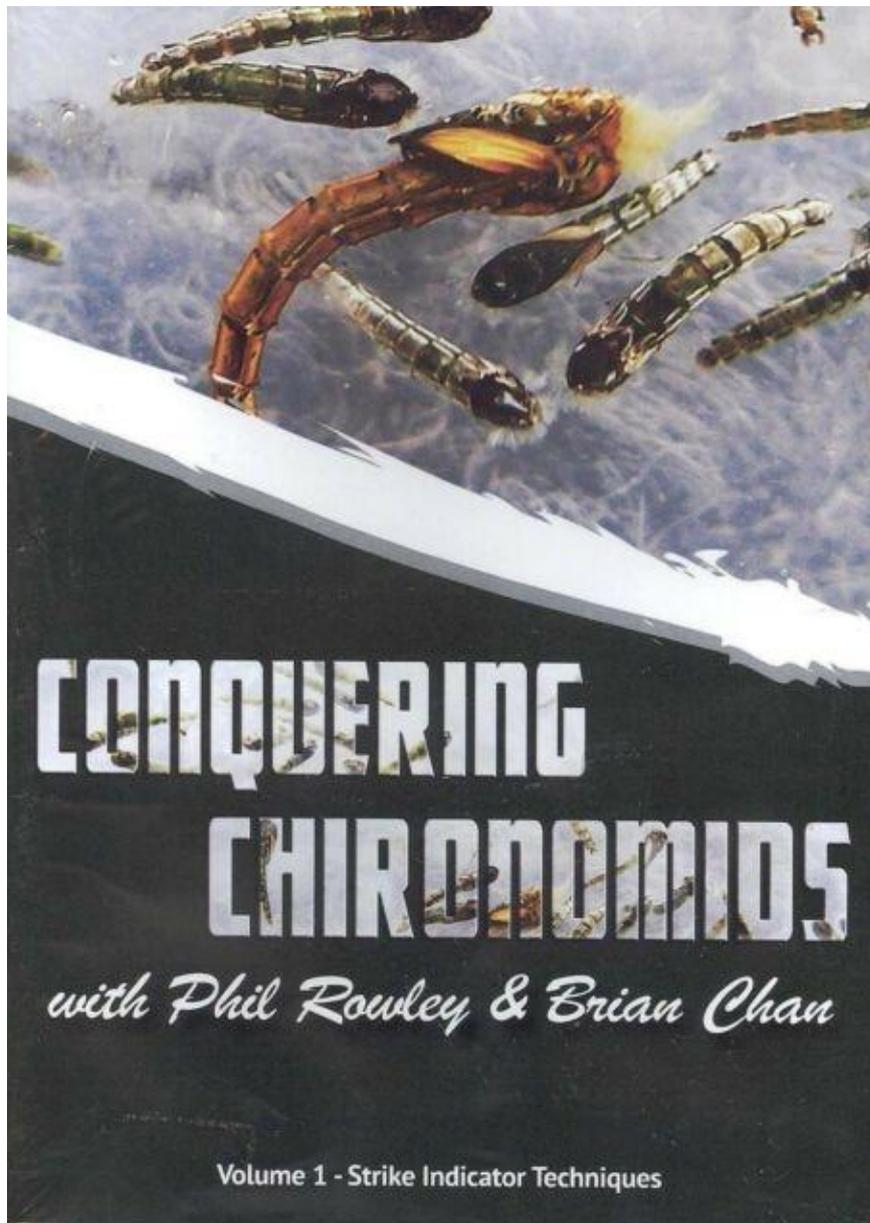
Comparaduns are one of the most versatile mayfly patterns in existence representing a low-riding mayfly to near perfection. They are commonly used during a PMD (pale morning dun) hatch. However, many folks deny themselves of tying this simple pattern due to the perceived complexity of tying the deer hair wings. Using zelon or Antron as a trailing shuck tail makes this pattern an emerger mayfly pattern, with microfibits as a tail it becomes a straight dry fly.

A must have for every dry fly box.

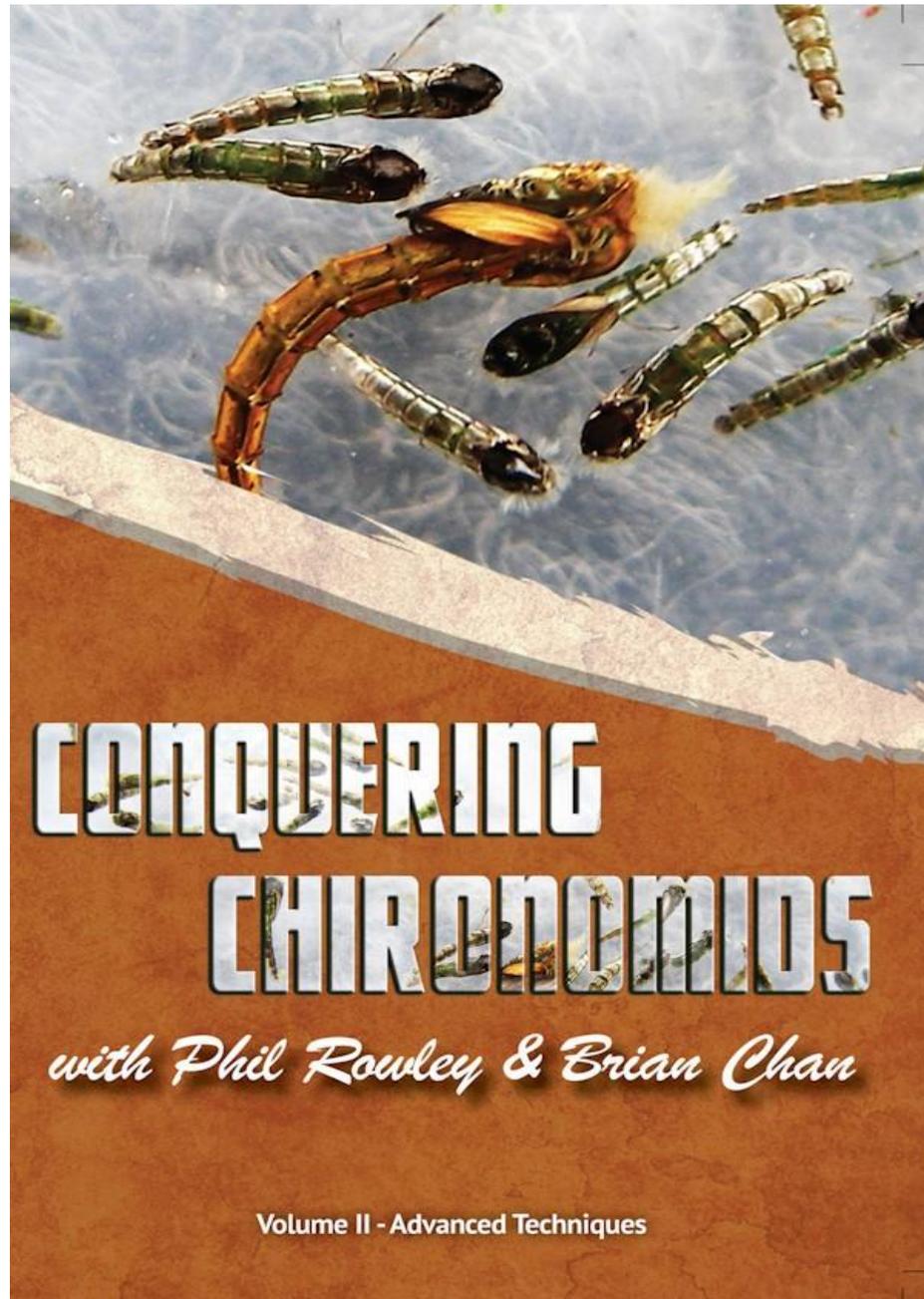
**From the Tying Desk of Paul Pavone**

# Library

## DVD's Of The Month



In Volume I, Strike Indicator Techniques Phil and Brian introduced you to chironomids, unquestionably, one of the most if not the most significant trout food sources found in lakes or stillwaters worldwide. Chironomids possess all of the qualities to make them a favorite prey item, diversity of species, significant daily and seasonal emergences, availability of larval, pupal and adult life stages, fish feed on them easily and they are rich in calories. Even the largest fish gorge themselves on chironomids. In order to successfully fly fish stillwaters you need to come to terms with understanding and representing this critical hatch.



In Volume II-Advanced Techniques, Phil and Brian invite you to continue your educational journey as they reveal their advanced chironomid tactics, tricks and presentation techniques. The special features section includes recipes and images of some of Phil and Brian's favorite larva, pupa, emerger and adult patterns, how to maintain your reel, how to use and incorporate sounders into your stillwater presentations and much more.

Phil and Brian are two of today's most accomplished and well-known stillwater fly fishers. Together, they have amassed over 60 years of stillwater fly fishing experience. Much of their time has been spent mastering the art of chironomid fishing.

# Stalker Flex-Fit Fly Pant

Every jeans brand in the world makes stretch denim, yet for fly fishers, we have stayed with old school cotton and nylon. Seemed ridiculous, so we set about making fishing pants that were comfortable, breathable, functional, but most importantly allowed all the movement you could handle, deep casual pockets, plus a couple of zippered safety pockets and a serious belt... and the NEW Stalker Fly Fishing Flex-Fit pants were born and ready to take on every fly fishing journey imaginable. Only \$99.00



Available in a dark grey in :-  
S=90cm M=95cm L=100cm XL=105cm XXL=110 and XXXL=115cm

**Special Offer to YVFF Members  
From Hurley Flyfishing.**

**\*\$65.00 Per Pair Includes Postage.**

**To order Contact Owen: 0488 535 151**

# YVFF Club Shirt



**Sizes : Small, Large, Extra Large, XX Large and XXX Large.**

**\*Large and Extra Large Available ex Stock**

**\$50.00 each With Embroidered Club Logo.**

**Place Your Order Now.**

**Contact Owen : 0488 535 151**

## Vine Hopper

ACTUAL VINE HOPPER ALONGSIDE SIZE 16 HOOK

TROUT LOVE THEM LIKE MARS BARS



## From the Editor's Desk.

We trust you all enjoy reading the April 2020 YVFF Fly Line By Line.

Keep your contributions coming so we as a club can stay in touch during this time of crisis.

All your Fishy Photo's and Stories are greatly appreciated.

**Deadline for Contributions for the May Edition  
is Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

**Stay Safe and Healthy : Look after yourselves.**

Owen.

email : [editor@yvff.com.au](mailto:editor@yvff.com.au)

**\*With the exception of Official Club Policy and Reports, the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Club.**