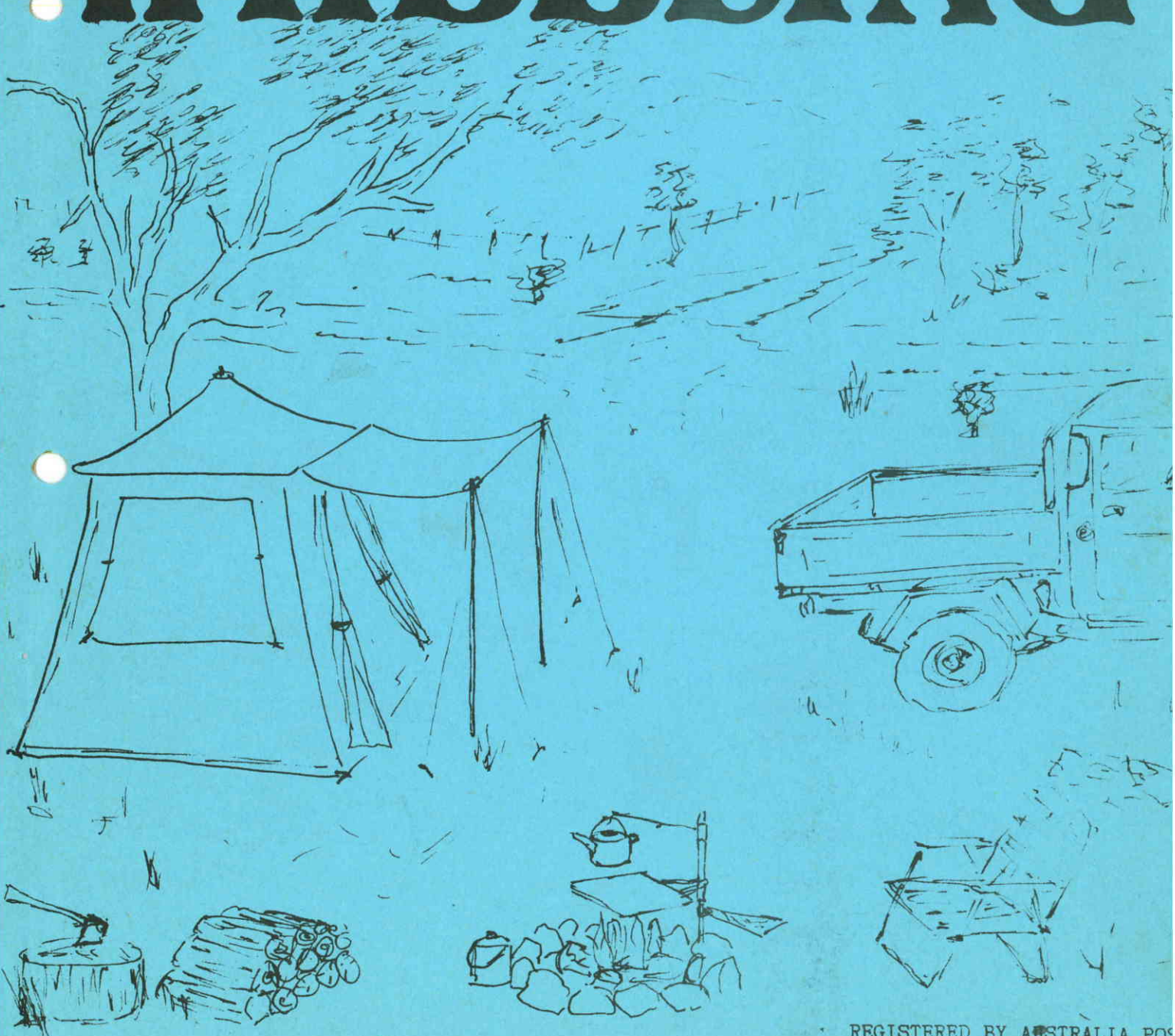


JANUARY 1989



# FREE WHEELING



REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST  
PUBLICATION NO. VBH 16

## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

Commenced 8.10 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting read moved by T. Brachna  
seconded by S. Abela

Apologies - P. Casey, C. Droper, R. Fransworth

Tea Duty - Tom & Peter Pink.

Incoming mail: Other club mags, Advertizing from Somerville  
4WD Wreckers and touring companies.

Outgoing mail: Club mags.

Magazine articles: Barry Ellis had several.

Trip reports: Terry Moore gave a report on the Mayford  
Cup Weekend.

Rick Ryken gave a report on the Stresleki  
Day trip.

Treasurer's Report: Current Balance \$1,397.00  
moved by Ken Beith  
seconded by Don Montague

Social Report: Michelle said another 11 people were needed for  
Christmas Party and were raised.

Children's Christmas Party December 11th at  
Bimbimbie Park, cost \$5 adults, under 14 free.

### Upcoming trips for 1989

Peter Pink has the nav. trial on the Australia Day weekend. ✓

Weekend trip to the Pines, Eildon on the 11-12 February  
(trip leader required).

Tom Brachna has a training day on the 4th March at O'Tooles.

John Lake will lead a trip to the Mitchell Hut on the  
22nd April.

Peter Rowe to lead a Xmas trip to the Talbotville-Dargo area. ✓

Andy Moore to lead a trip to the Macalister River.

PTO

Easter trip to Sunset Country led by Barry Ellis.

Weekend trip led by Pat Casey to the Otways on the 8 - 9 April.

Stresleki Ranges day trip led by Rick Rycken on the 14th May.

Wine trip to be led by Tom Brachna, on 27th May.

Day trip - car rally - see Peter Pink (Date to be confirmed).

Rod Lee to lead a day trip to Gembrook (Date to be confirmed).

Anakee Fairy Park Day trip (Date to be confirmed).

Association Report: Presidents and Delegates weekend held at Homestead.

Everything was running smoothly.

Raffle was a \$30 voucher at Walwykes

sold by Brian West

won by Rob Pitzer.

PLEASE NOTE:

IMPORTANT:

CHANGE:

MEETING NIGHTS CHANGED TO 1st TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AS FROM

FEBRUARY 1989 MEETING, 8 P.M. start.

Steve Alder requested more material for the Club Magazine over Christmas.

Meeting closed 10.05 p.m.

Members - 31

Visitors - 7

A very Merry Christmas and New Year to all !!!

# VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

## TRIP DATA.

=====

DESTINATION : ~~WAA~~ WALNALLA

TRIP LEADER : P Pink PHONE NUMBER : 763 7434

DEPARTURE DATE : 27-1-89 DEPARTURE TIME: 7.30 PM

DEPARTURE POINT: HALLAM PUB

FUEL REQUIRED : FULL TANK THIRSTY VEHICLES 1 JERRY

LAST FUEL AVAILABLE: MOE

MAPS REQUIRED : TOOMBON 1:25 000 HALLAM MAP CENTRE

GRADE : A B C DURATION : 3 DAYS

BASE CAMP : YES ~~NO~~ NATIONAL PARKS : YES NO

ROUTE VIA : HALLAM . MOE ERICA WALNALLA.  
O TOONES

ACTIVITIES : SATURDAY RELAXING FISHING PROSPECTING  
SUNDAY A.B GRADE NAVIGATION TRAIL  
MONDAY SIGN TRAIL HONE

SPECIAL CONDITIONS :  
FULL RECOVERY GEAR  
FOR COMPETITORS

=====

SHOULD BE SOME ONE GOING  
UP SATURDAY RING FOR DETAILS  
PHOTO COPY MAPS WILL BE AVAILABLE  
THE REAL THING WILL MAKE YOUR JOB EASIER  
PLEASE RETURN TO COMMITTEE 4 WEEKS PRIOR TO TRIP (TO ALLOW PUBLICATION)

## EAST GIPPSLAND TROUT ON FIRE

What a strange season it has been. We have seen 30° days in September and October, and had snow on the Alps in November. All this strange and unpredictable weather has had little or no effect on the trout fishing, in East Gippsland.

Thanks to some recent thunderstorms the streams are running beautifully for this time of the year, the farm country looks a treat and the fish are having a ball.

The biggest river in East Gippsland is the Mitta. From its beginning at the foot of Mount Bogong, to where it enters Dartmouth Dam, it is flowing particularly well and the fishing is excellent. Using nymphs, a group of Bairnsdale fisherpersons caught 20 fish averaging  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pound to a pound.

The most productive area seems to be around the Omeo Valley. Morass Creek continues to fish well. Above Prender Flat the river is quite dirty, however at Prender's Flat the river flows through a swamp which allows the water to settle somewhat and it is quite fishable downstream of the swamp. Good fish are being taken downstream as far as Dartmouth Dam. Morass Creek is noted for its big fish and although the average size is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs, fish of up to 5 pounds are not uncommon.

The Morass Creek runs through farm country and young immature grasshoppers are about everywhere. Over the next couple of months they will grow and become more active, which will please the big brownies no end.

The catch and release policy is imperative on these delicate mountain streams if we are to continue to expect good fishing from them.

The Beunba Creek rises at Mount Anderson and flows West until it enters the Gibbo River, which in turn runs mainly through light forest and open plains.

It is a beautiful valley where it is not uncommon to see Emus running down the tracks and Kangaroos grazing on the flats. It is a clear flowing and weedy stream that lends itself to dry fly fishing although local anglers have a lot of success with the humble worm.

PTO

Two rivers that have not come up to expectation are the Victoria River and Livingston Creek. Both streams are producing small numbers of small fish and better fishing can be found elsewhere in the area. The Omeo and Dargo areas are amongst the best Trout areas in the state and Summer fishing should be excellent.

The best rivers for bait fisherpersons to try are the Mitta, Gibbo and Coboungra. The number one best bait will be the grasshopper which is readily available along the stream's edge. They are best caught early morning when the overnight dew makes them a little less active.

If you are lucky enough to have some school aged children, I have found that they can easily be bribed into catching enough hopper for a day's fishing, by giving them a Mars Bar or two. Cheap at half the price. Do not discount the humble worm - they are always a good bet, as well as cricket and grubs.

For the spin fisherperson (take note Pinky) try a 1 or 2 Celta in green and black or red and black. They are tried and true in this area and no other spinner seems to come near them.

The fly fisherperson has an ideal opportunity to get into some great dry fly fishing; hopper pattern and beetle are the most successful. Try a Nobby Hopper, Red Tag or Geehi Beetle. In the rough water, a Royal Wullf or Humpy (red or green body) are just about irresistable.

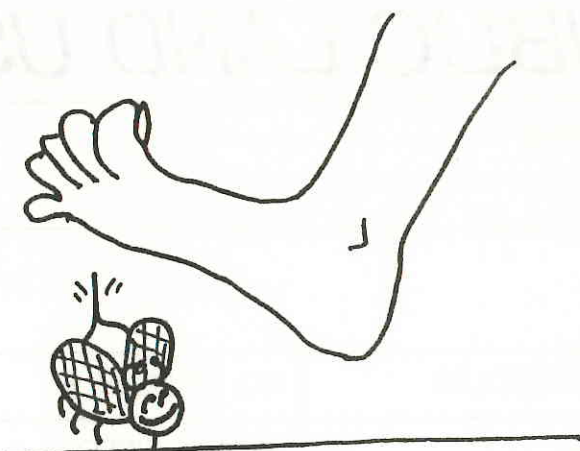
Peter Pink reported a 7 pound Brownie taken in the Rubicon several weeks ago, up near the power station. Sounds like the area is worth a try so I'll see you on the bank.

#### F. Smell

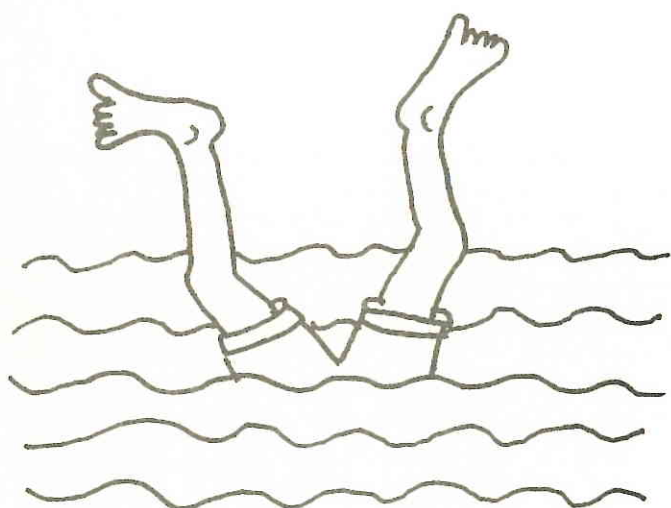
P.S. Anyone got any fishy stories to tell. If so, see the Secretary at the next meeting - please.



NEAR THE FIRE



SAFETY FOOTWEAR



NEAR WATER .




AROUND CAMP.

# VICTORIA ASSOCIATION OF FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS

## PUBLIC LAND USE REPORT

CLUB NAME		<p>The object of this report is to provide accurate information on the use four wheel drive clubs' and their members make of public land for submissions to government and Statutory Authorities. All information is confidential and club names are not used. Please fill out this report for both Club and personal trips, with number of vehicles, people and distance travelled.</p>
DATE		
NO. OF VEHICLES	NO. OF PEOPLE	KMS TRAVELLED
REGION	TRACKS USED	COMMENTS: (use reverse if insufficient space).



## FIVE STEPS TO GOOD FLY CASTING

Fly fishing is a very enjoyable way to pass the time. It is an activity with many facets, each capable of being totally absorbing in themselves, while together they form a whole. This can then provide never-ending interest and discovery, but on the other hand can seem terribly daunting to the beginner. None more so than the faltering first attempts to cast a fly line.

Fly casting is at the core of fly fishing, obviously, so it must be mastered to some degree before anything else can be accomplished. It is not difficult. Neither is it difficult to ride a bike or hit a golf ball straight down the fairway. All such skills are easy when you can do them. It is the learning that is hard!

The reason I am making that point is not to frighten away anyone thinking of trying fly fishing for the first time but simply because I have seen beginners become disheartened and disappointed over their problems in learning to cast. Usually they have read and been told that fly casting is easy, and they have been shocked to discover that they can't do it properly in the first ten minutes of trying.

Anyone wishing to improve their fly casting, whether beginner or not, will benefit from practicing the following five steps to good fly casting:

### STEP 1 - KEEP THE WRIST FIRM

When fly casting, the rod should be imagined as an extension of the arm. The hand and wrist are the connection needs to be tight, not loose.

It is possible to cast with a loose wrist, the hand flapping backwards and forwards, but it is much easier if the hand maintains a firm grip on the rod handle and moves as one with the forearm. The power which is generated by the muscles of the arm and shoulder should be passed to the rod. Next time you are in a butcher's shop, watch him using the cleaver.

The wrist is not held rigid, there is some movement, but not much.

STEP 1 cont....

With a completely locked wrist joint, the rod will move at the same speed as the arm. Rod speed at the tip and therefore line speed, can be increased greatly with a short snap of the wrist at the end of the stroke.

Most people overdo this, however, and spoil their casting by allowing a "loose connection" between rod and arm.

STEP 2 - CAST WITH THE ARM

This follows automatically if the wrist is kept firm but it is worth emphasising as a separate step. Heavy rods cannot be used to cast with just the hand moving, so this is not usually a problem for salt water fly rodders.

Give someone a nice little four or five weight graphite trout stream rod, and they will attempt to cast with it by holding their arm out in front of their body and wagging their hand back and forth. It is possible to make short casts like that with a very light rod, but is easier and much less tiring if the whole arm is used.

One exercise which teaches casting with the arm is to use just the tip half of the rod. With an exaggerated arm stroke it is possible to cast quite reasonable distances in this way and the practice will cure most "hand waggles".

STEP 3 - PUSH AND PULL

If the rod is swung through an arc during false casting, very good casts can be made, provided that the intention is to bang the fly down on the grass behind, and the water in front, on each stroke. The fly will go where it is aimed.

The forward false cast shot should be aimed straight out over the water and the back cast aimed upwards and back. The result of this is that the rod is pushed forwards and pulled backwards. The rod tip, the line which follows it, and the fly which also has to follow, all move back and forth in straight lines. The rod is kept pointing to the sky being tipped forward a little at the end of the front cast and tipped back a little at the end of the back cast.

The delivery cast differs only in that the rod is tipped forward just a little more before being stopped, and the fly is aimed a little lower than in a false cast. The line should straighten out above the water, not slam down upon it.

STEP 4 - VARY STROKE LENGTH

Casting a small dry fly to a trout rising ten metres away is quite different from throwing a large wet as far out into the lake as possible.

#### STEP 4 cont....

The amount of power which must be transmitted into the line for the long casts is considerably greater than needed for the short ones. If the stroke of the rod is restricted to one size by reference to an imaginary clock face, as it is often the case in casting instruction, often together with orders about the position of elbows and hand, then trying to force extra power into the stroke will tend to overload the rod.

It will overload the caster's arm, as well! By making a much bigger stroke of the rod, the extra power for long casts can be transmitted to the line with ease.

Conversely, short casts require little power, and if this is spread throughout a normal size casting stroke, it will be insufficient to load the rod and poor cast will result. Squeezing power into a very short stroke will load the rod correctly.

Short casts are best when just the forearm is used, rather like throwing darts, while the longest casts bring the upper arm, shoulder and body into play, and may be compared with throwing a cricket ball from the boundary.

#### STEP 5 - PRACTICE

To acquire skill in riding a bike, driving a golf ball, or fly casting, requires practice. But practice alone will NOT make perfect. Time spent practicing is time wasted unless some form of coaching is included. The ideal, and by far the quickest method, is with the aid of a professional instructor.

Next best is one of the fly casting instructional videos, with written word bringing up the rear, I'm afraid. Nevertheless, casting can be mastered from reading about it provided the instructions are carefully considered and practiced.

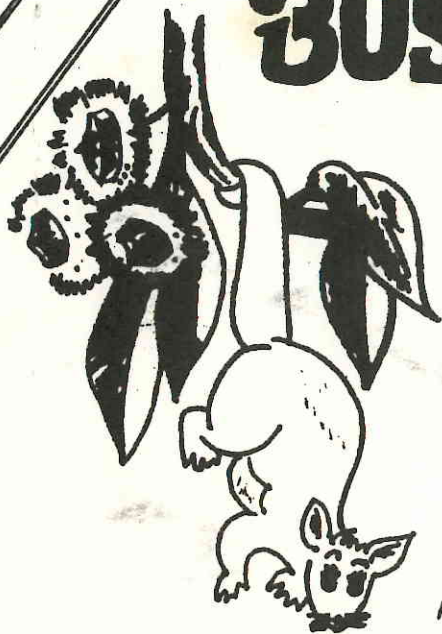
It is well worth having someone watching the practice, even though they can not cast themselves, because they can describe what is actually happening, which may not be what the student thinks.

It should not take long before the first timer is casting well enough to go fishing. There is lots more to learn about fly fishing and the sooner a start is made, the better. Casting should continue to improve for many years, and remembering these five steps should help.

See you at the bank.

F. Smell

# BUSH.B.Q.



## THE BARBEQUE OF THE OUTBACK

simple

strong

highly efficient

compact

mesh grillen

open fire cooking

fully engineered

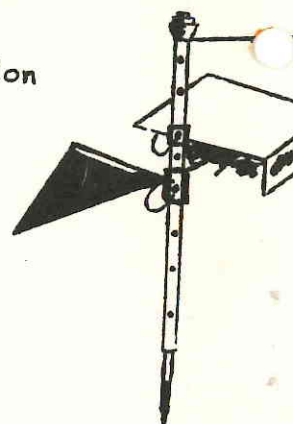
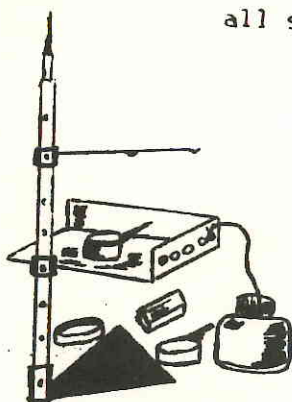
all steel construction

versatile

indoor/outdoor

gas conversion

REALISTICALLY PRICED



ENQUIRIES BUSH B.Q.

9 CORONATION STREET

MT WAVERLEY VIC 3149

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