



## **Newsletter of The Southern Fly Fishers Club**

**February 2021**

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# The President's Report

Allan Russell

Fellow Fly Fishers,

This is the first Newsletter of 2021 and I trust you all had an enjoyable Festive Season and wish you the very best for the New Year. Speaking for myself, it is great to be out fishing again and our rivers and lakes are in excellent condition. I know a number of you have been out and there are reports of some good catches – long may it continue.

Importantly, Victoria has now entered a new Covid-normal and I am thrilled to inform you that we shall be back in the Club Rooms for our Members' Night meeting on Wednesday, 10 February and I look forward to seeing you there. The Club has a CovidSafe Plan, the details of which were e-mailed to all of you. The rules around meetings are continually evolving and at present, we are required to wear masks. It is absolutely essential that we comply with the rules and the Plan and safeguard each other once we return to the Club Rooms.

The re-opening of the Club Rooms provides us with the opportunity to welcome a number of new Members and it is wonderful that we have been able to attract new Members during such difficult times. Your Committee has a number of ideas to both attract new Members and provide value for existing Members and the upcoming Fly Fishing Course is an example of this.

This Newsletter has an article on the submission for and subsequent receipt of a substantial Grant from the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) for the re-sealing of our casting pool. This Grant makes a real impact on the Club's activities and I want to add my thanks to all those involved in getting it over the line. Dean Gordon will be supervising the works in mid-February and is looking for Members to assist him – please contact Dean and help out.

With the lifting of restrictions on our movements, the Club is busy scheduling fishing trips, so keep an eye on the calendar. The Club is always open to ideas for trips and looking for trip leaders, so feel free to put your ideas forward and let us get out on the water and do what we love so much!

I look forward to catching up in the Club Rooms very soon.

Sincere good wishes,

Allan.

## Committee – Officers and Delegates 2020 - 2021

The Officers and Delegates for 2020 – 2021 are:

<b>President</b>	Allan Russell	<a href="mailto:president@southernflyfishers.org.au">president@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0437 240 323
<b>Vice President</b>	Garry Mulvay	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@southernflyfishers.org.au">vicepresident@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bryan Macpherson	<a href="mailto:treasurer@southernflyfishers.org.au">treasurer@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0419 313 807
<b>Secretary</b>	Grant Dawson	<a href="mailto:secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au">secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0447 722 916
<b>Trip Coordinator &amp; Licensee</b>	Peter Suzic	<a href="mailto:trips@southernflyfishers.org.au">trips@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0423 503 974
<b>Webmaster</b>	Bruce Quig	<a href="mailto:webmaster@southernflyfishers.org.au">webmaster@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0402 141 460
<b>Committee</b>	Graeme Renfrey		0448 713 948
<b>Committee</b>	Chris Mastwyk		0439 016 530
<b>Committee</b>	Julia Williams		0419 750 845
<b>Committee</b>	Dean Gordon		0408 549 005
<b>Committee</b>	Gerard Carmody		0434 033 856
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Bryan Macpherson	<a href="mailto:editor@southernflyfishers.org.au">editor@southernflyfishers.org.au</a>	0419 313 807

## Club Caps for Sale

**SFF Club caps are  
\$10ea at the regular**



**available for purchase at  
Wednesday club meetings**

## **Important – CovidSafe Plan**

The Committee has formulated a CovidSafe Plan which will apply to everyone visiting the Club Rooms. A summary of the Plan has also been e-mailed to all Members and you are urged to read through it.

The Club will be applying stringent hygiene and social distancing measures in the Club Rooms and Members are requested to comply with the plan.

Most importantly, if you have any flu-like symptoms, do not visit the Club Rooms.

If you develop symptoms after a visit to the Club Rooms, please get tested and if you are positive, advise a Committee member immediately. The Club will then work with the DHHS to ensure any Club Members who may be similarly infected are contacted and get tested.

Similar rules apply to trips – if you have symptoms, do not join Club Members on a trip and if you develop symptoms after a trip then get tested and if you test positive, let a Committee member know.

The importance of this notification process cannot be stressed enough.

## **General Meeting Minutes**

No General Meeting Minutes are available due to the cancellation of the Members' meetings until such time as the current Corona Virus restrictions are lifted.

## **Members Beware**

Members are urged to be vigilant regarding scam e-mails. These scams proliferated during lockdown and there are currently some very sophisticated scams in operation. In some instances, they may purport to come from the Club, fellow members or Committee members.

If you receive an e-mail requesting, in particular, your bank account details or a payment request it may well be part of a scam and we urge you not to respond.

If you have any suspicions, contact a Committee member for clarification before taking any action.

## **Bank Account Details**

For the information of members, the Club has changed its bankers. The bank account details are as follows:

The Southern Flyfishers Aust. Inc.

Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000

Acc No. 172 683 468

Please make sure your records are correct.

## Membership update – new members

Over the long Covid-induced lockdown, the Club has been fortunate to recruit a number of new Members. It has not been possible to formally introduce these new Members to the Club and they have not been able to join their fellow Members in the Club Rooms.

Once we are back in the Club Rooms, we shall have the opportunity to welcome John Esson, Dave Miller, Rod Stirling, Lucas Graham, Alex Harratt, Daniel Sanfilippo, Ross Macdonald and Terry Mattison to the Club.

## Membership Details and Confidentiality

The Membership List detailing the names and contact phone numbers of all active Club members has recently been updated and a lot of work has gone into reviewing the list to ensure it is accurate and up to date.

Please check your details and make sure they are correct.

If your name does not appear on the list or your contact details are not correct, please e-mail both [secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au) and [editor@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:editor@southernflyfishers.org.au) so that your details can be updated.

**If you do not wish your name and/or phone number to be reflected on the Membership List for privacy reasons, please e-mail the Secretary and your details shall be removed.**

## Membership Subscription Fees

Membership fees for members are as follows:

Cat	Membership Type	Annual Subs	Insurance per person	Total p.a.
M	Member	\$80	\$15	\$95
P	Member's spouse/partner	\$40	\$15	\$55
C	Concession – <b>note 1</b>	\$60	\$15	\$75
J	Junior (under 18 yrs)	\$40	\$15	\$55
S	FT Student (under 25 yrs)	\$50	\$15	\$65
CT	Country – <b>note 2</b>	\$50	\$15	\$65
F	Family Special – <b>note 3</b>	\$120	\$15	\$120*
L	Life Member	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Note 1** Govt. Pensions and Seniors Card holders

**Note 2** Permanently residing over 60km from Club

**Note 3** At least 3 adults, junior and students, of the same immediate family **\*(+ insurance each person)**

## Casting Sessions Resume

Members are advised that Bruce Ratcliffe's valuable Tuesday night casting and coaching sessions have resumed on Tuesday evenings commencing at between 18.00 and 18.30. These sessions will be disrupted while the pool re-sealing work is done so Members are urged to get down and join in.

In any event, a working group has cleaned the pond and it remains open at any time for members who wish to go down and remove the rust from their technique.

## Calendar – Upcoming Events

As the Corona Virus travel restrictions are eased, the Club calendar for trips and events is starting to fill up but Members are reminded that they may be re-scheduled, cancelled or postponed at short notice. The calendar of upcoming events will be updated regularly so please keep checking the updates on the Club's Team App platform.

Date		Event/Location	Leader
TBA		Fly Tying nymphs for early season - 3 Wednesdays	TBA
TBA		Zoom session with Rick Dobson [Owner of Aussie Angler, Greensborough]	Allan Russell
<b>February</b>	14th	Goulburn River	TBA
	17th	Buxton	TBA
<b>March</b>	21st	Marysville	TBA
	23rd	Euro Nymphing theory at the Club Rooms at 19.30	Ross Bailey
	27th	Euro Nymphing practical session at Tumbling Waters picnic area on the Rubicon. Time to be confirmed.	Ross Bailey
<b>April</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> – 18th	Barkly River, West Gippsland	TBA
<b>May</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> – 9th	Big River	TBA



## Armchair Fishing

As we come to the end of our long Corona Virus induced restrictions, we can again dream and plan for fishing trips in far-away places. We can fire up the laptop and start a list of places near and far to add to our bucket list of places to visit.

This month, we can put on our kilts and travel to Bonnie Scotland – wouldn't that be an experience!

<https://www.youfishscotland.com/trout>

For publication in future editions, members are urged to send the web addresses of their dream places to the editor at [editor@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:editor@southernflyfishers.org.au).

## Fly Fishing Courses

The SFF Club recognises that there are members who would like to expand their fly-fishing knowledge or improve their skills in one or more aspects of the sport and that the same desire to learn probably exists in people who would like to take up the sport and join the Club.

To this end, the Club will be running a comprehensive trout-focused fly-fishing course for current members commencing in early March. The course will be run at the SFF Club rooms over four nights and consecutive weeks (dates and times to be confirmed).

The course will be run by Rob Casamento; developed and instructed by Club members, including our certified casting instructors.

Content will include:

- Understanding rods, lines, leaders, and tippetts
- Casting techniques
- Fly choice
- Setting up for fishing dries, wets, and nymphs
- 'Stream-craft' for creeks, rivers and lakes

It is the goal that at the conclusion of the course, members will have the skills to participate confidently in club trips, and a fishing trip to an appropriate location will be organised.

The course will be free to members, with the only requirement being that they renew their annual membership for 2021/22.

It is not meant to replace other specialty courses that will continue to be run separately such as euro-nymphing and fly-tying.

Looking ahead, the course will also be offered to people wishing to take up the sport or who are new to it. Club equipment will be provided to those who do not have rods etc. The courses will be free to them, provided they join the Club.



If you would like to join the March course or require more information, please contact Gerard Carmody at [gerard.carmody@gmail.com](mailto:gerard.carmody@gmail.com) who is assisting with the course co-ordination.

## **Casting Pool Re-sealing Funding Grant**

The Covid-enforced quarantine rules through most of 2020 meant that the Club's casting pool could not be cleaned on a regular basis and there was no routine maintenance carried out on it. This in turn led to a deterioration in the waterproofing and it became clear that the pool required re-sealing.

After an application to the Kingston Council was rejected, the Club made an application to the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) for a small works grant and in early January we received funding of \$3,676 for the work to be done. This funding will cover the cost of all materials, with the work to be done by members, and is a great outcome for the Club as it ensures the ongoing use of this important asset.

Applications for these grants take a lot of work and effort and the Club is extremely grateful for the assistance of a number of people and organisations, including:

The Victorian Fisheries Authority and, in particular, Richard Rogala who facilitated the grant; The Kingston Council, our landlords, who consented to our application;

Sunshine Fly Fishing Club, Ballarat Fly Fishing Club, Red Tag Fly Fishing Club and the Council of Victorian Fly Fishing Clubs, all of which provided written support for our application;

Dean Gordon who did the costings and method statement for the submission; and,

Pete Te Hennepe who prepared the submission and worked with the VFA to ensure our application was successful.

The re-sealing work is scheduled to be done in mid-February under the supervision of Dean Gordon. Dean will require some assistance and Members who are willing to lend a hand should contact Dean on 0408 549 005.

It is worth noting that the grant is funded out of revenue raised from fishing licences – an example of the money raised being put back into the fishing community.

Thanks to everyone and we look forward to using the pool once the work is completed.

## **Southern Fly Fishers break out of Covid**

Noojee trip – Sunday, 10 January 2021

Allan Russell was the trip leader for this trip and successfully had everybody allocated to certain fishing spots in the area. The attendance was some 12 members, a good turnout and these members represented the highest quality of expertise that the fly-fishing sport would allow!

The weather was perfect - about 25 degrees and with very little wind. The rivers had a very good fishing level with only the Latrobe running a little dirty and this was a problem for one of my favourite sections which produced very little. Considering the conditions, it was surprising that dry flies were not the go, with very few fish coming up to the surface. The



guys using nymphs had the best day, picking up a number of fish to a reasonable size and it was good to see our waterways producing well.



There are always plenty of fish in our streams and it is up to us to find ways to snare our fair share. The last few seasons of good rainfall has kept the rivers and creeks flowing well which always helps. Due to these good rains, the Noojee and Neerim country side was sporting an abundance of green and picturesque views along the road to our fishing rivers.





Peter Suzic brought one of his daughters, Gabby, who was entertained by my sister Patsy and they both had a great day. I travelled and fished with Bernard Schindler for the day and was very entertained by his interesting stories. I was impressed with Bernard's spritely ways during the day considering the health problems he has faced and met head on over the past few years. Well done Bernard.

Our club is blessed with a number of very interesting and entertaining members so lunch times on these trips are always filled with great stories and lies and this trip was no different. This year looks like it could be shaping up to be a year of new member intake for Southern with a number of inquiries and applicants. We look forward to following them up and having them join us on great trips such as this one. Noojee - another great fishing trip for Southern and looking forward to more in 2021.

***Tony Hyett***

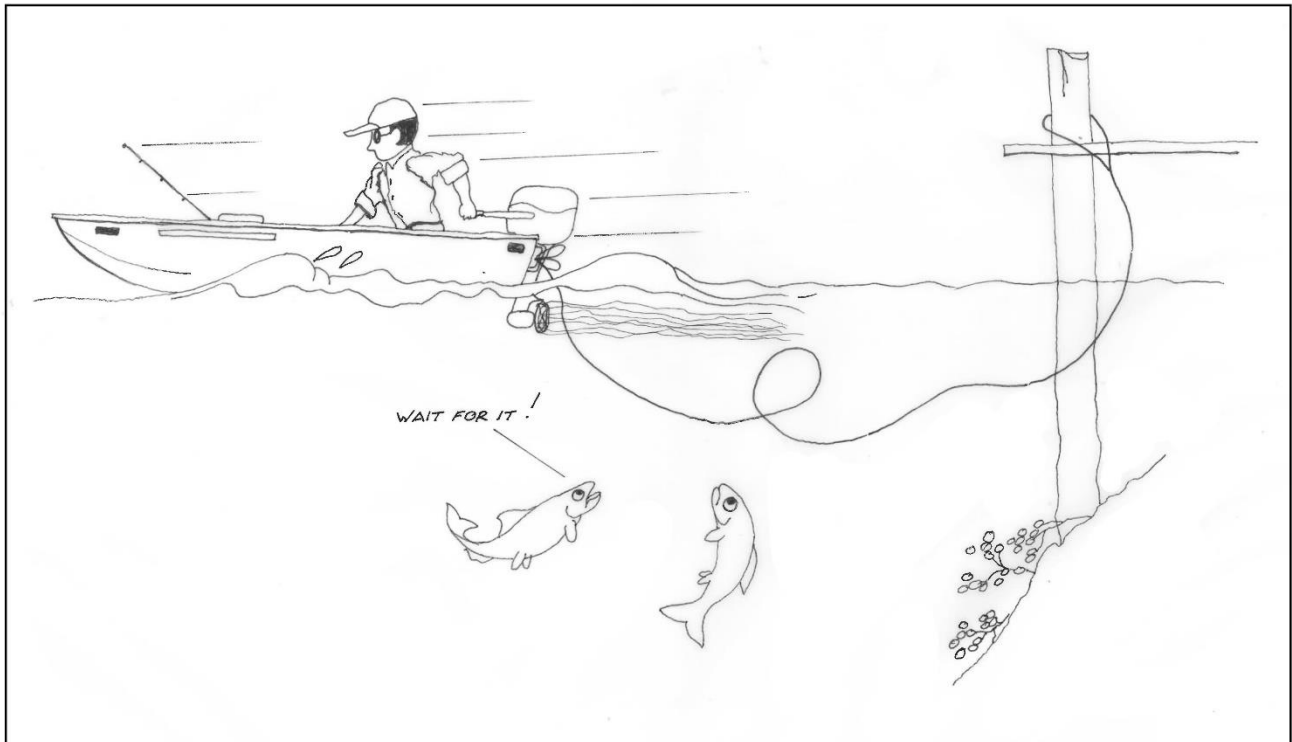
## ***“Charles Bradley” Flies for Sale***

You may have noticed the fly boxes on top of the fridge in the clubrooms? Fly boxes is a bit of an understatement as you will understand if you have seen them recently. These new display cabinets contain a vast array of flies that the club managed to secure at a preferential rate. The usual donated flies will also be located in these display cabinets, so you will still be able to get yourself a genuine Max Kepert fly. The flies are for sale at \$1.50 each. Please see Julia Williams for purchases and payment on the night.

## Humour

### WIND KNOTS

by Bruce Ratcliffe

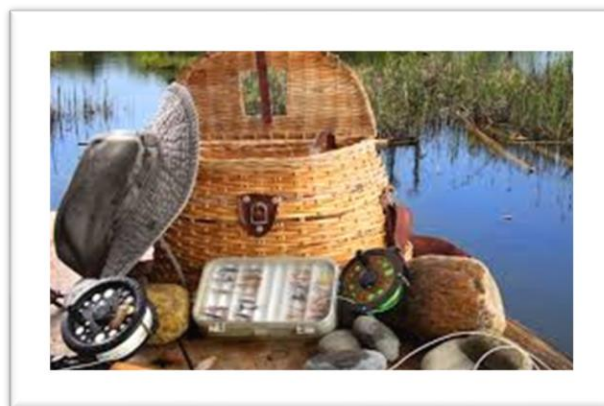


*Once again, with thanks to Bruce Ratcliffe.*

## Members' Bargain Table & Marketplace

Each General Meeting Night (4th Wednesday) provides Members with an opportunity to offer items for sale/auction with allocated space on the Member's Bargain Table. If you are interested in selling your goods, you must register your interest and details of the items with the Secretary, Grant Dawson prior to the night on 0447 722 916 or email:

[secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:secretary@southernflyfishers.org.au)



The newsletter also provides Members with the opportunity to buy and sell fishing gear. If you have something to sell (new or used) or you are looking to purchase an item, send the details through to [editor@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:editor@southernflyfishers.org.au), together with your mobile number and e-mail address. If you are a seller, a photograph of your item will be a big help. The advertisement will be put together and this will enable buyers and sellers to make contact and provide a useful marketplace.

## SFF Club Mobile App

The club now has a mobile app based on the Team App platform which is proving valuable for Member communication. This smartphone app allows easy and immediate access to club information on your phone. Amongst the initial features are chat rooms, trip information and rsvp's, newsletters and a calendar of events/trips.

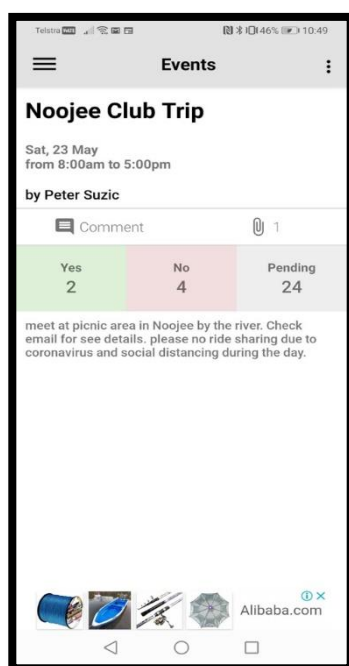
The club recognises that not all members may have smart phones or make use of the app. The information provided by the app is therefore in addition to all of the existing communication channels so that no-one is disadvantaged.

**To use the SFF App you need to download Team App onto your smartphone. Download Team App here (<http://teamapp.com/app>).**

**Launch Team App.**

**Then:**


1. Sign-up to Team App. You'll be sent an email to confirm your registration.
2. Log in. Then search for Southern Fly Fishers and request access to join the members group that apply to you.



## Advertisements & Sponsors



*Gazza's Gourmet Seafood*  
Shop 31 Queen Victoria Market  
Ph: 03 9329 6017  
Gary Rapley 0408 342 132  
Bringing you Australia's Finest Seafood



*Hurley's*  
**FLY FISHING**

[www.hurleysflyfishing.com.au](http://www.hurleysflyfishing.com.au)

**10%**

Visit the **Bentleigh** Fly Fishing Store to receive some great advice and a **10% discount** for SFF members.

## Accommodation Offer

Myrica Cottage, self-contained with beautiful décor and all amenities, is located in Bellbrae, Victoria 5.5 km from Anglesea. Solar powered, environmentally friendly and accommodating up to five people, it has two bedrooms, a superb lounge and dining area, self-equipped kitchen and bathroom.

With abundant Australian wildlife, a private fly fishery (catch-and-release only) and walks on over 200 acres of natural bushland it is perfect for fly fishermen, birdwatchers, bushwalkers, bike riders, photographers, nature lovers, horse riders (own horses) and international guests. For hire to those who are willing to share with the native flora and fauna by leaving the pristine premises as found, with kangaroos on site and a spectacular wedge-tailed eagle's nest. Tariff \$300 per weekend (Please confirm). For information call Allan Roberts on 0412 560 452.







# Membership Nomination Form

## Southern Fly Fishers Aust. Inc.

PO Box 388 Moorabbin 3192

Nomination date...../...../.....

Nominee's Name.....Signature.....

Address..... Post Code.....

Phone contact(s) Home.....Mob.....

I consent to my name and phone number being included in The Fly Fisher each month YES / No

Email (Please print).....

Occupation .....

Proposer .....Signature.....

Secunder .....Signature.....

Where did you hear about Southern Fly Fishers Club? .....

**\*\* Membership category and applicable fee for 2020 -2021**

Ca t	Membership Types	Existing Members			New members Joining (pro rata)			
		Annual Subs+	Ins. per person	Total PA	Jul to Sep	Oct to Dec	Jan to Mar	Apr to Jun
M	Member	\$80	\$15	<b>\$95</b>	\$95	\$75	\$55	\$35
P	Members spouse / partner	\$40	\$15	<b>\$55</b>	\$55	\$45	\$35	\$25
C	Concession (Note 1)	\$60	\$15	<b>\$75</b>	\$75	\$60	\$45	\$30
J	Junior (under 18 years)	\$40	\$15	<b>\$55</b>	\$55	\$45	\$35	\$25
S	FT student (under 25)	\$50	\$15	<b>\$65</b>	\$65	\$53	\$40	\$28
CT	Country (Note 2)	\$50	\$15	<b>\$65</b>	\$65	\$53	\$40	\$28
F	Family Special (Note 3)	\$120	\$15	<b>\$120*</b>	\$120*	\$100*	\$70*	\$40*
L	Life member	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Note 1** Govt. Pensions and Seniors Card holders

**Note 2** Permanently residing over 60km from Club

**Note 3** At least 3 members, adults, juniors and students, of the same immediate family \*(+ insurance each person)

If possible, please deposit direct to the SFF account with Bendigo Bank: BSB 633 - 000 / Account No 172 683 468

Please include your name as reference.

Alternatively Cheques should be made payable to Southern Fly Fishers Aust. Inc.

### Club use only

Membership category code\*\* ☐

Date submitted to Committee ...../...../.....

Approved by committee Yes / No

Applicable fee paid Yes / No

Notify: Secretary ☐ Editor of F/Fi ☐ Trea ☐ Register number

.....

**\*\*\* Membership is subject to confirmation by the Committee of Southern Fly Fishers Aust. Inc.\*\*\***

## Useful Information and Contact Details

We invite you to join and participate in the Club's activities. Our aim is to support members in the enjoyment of the sport of fly fishing, the environment and the social camaraderie.

Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the

**Southern Fly Fishing Clubroom and Casting Pool**

located in **Highett Reserve**,

Cnr Chesterville and Turner Roads, Highett. Melways 77 J 9

**(Look for the "Combined Clubrooms" entrance at N° 33 Turner Road)**

### Membership Benefits:

- Beginners' & advanced casting tuition
- Competitive casting & fishing events
- Beginners' and advanced fly tying classes
- Discounts from sponsors' retail outlets.
- Stream craft & fly fishing techniques
- Specialist guest speakers
- Monthly fly fishing discussion group
- Regular day & weekend fishing trips
- Annual interstate & overseas fishing trips
- Saltwater fly fishing activities
- Regular newsletter
- Public liability insurance for club activities

Membership enquiries to: [membership@southernflyfishers.org.au](mailto:membership@southernflyfishers.org.au)

Website: [www.southernflyfishers.org.au](http://www.southernflyfishers.org.au)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.southernflyfishers.org.au/>

"The Fly Fisher"

If undeliverable return to:

The Southern Fly Fishers

PO Box 388

MOORABBIN VIC 3192