

Issue 188

TROUT FISHER

Fly-focussed

Autumn 2024

WORKS!

Long Tippet Flies

Beards & Snow Trout

The King Cometh!

KENZIE The Wild Goose-Man

Camping In Snow – No Better Time

Getting Hooked In The Brindabellas

Confessions of an Addicted Salmon Angler

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Beards & Snow Trout 2
 I worked the rifle in small increments when the line came tight right in front of a large submerged boulder. The weight came on and the fish slipped beside the boulder and ran hard downstream.
 Simon Hoole fishes in Sichuan Province, China



Confessions of an Addicted Salmon Angler 8
 That fish weighed 35lb, just under 16kg. The men were standing around admiring the large fish, when the lady spoke, "If that all there is to salmon fishing then I am not interested". And next day she brought a chair and sat and read the rest of the week. A few male anglers' heads went down after that comment. We had a quite laugh about it.
 Part 5 of Larry Burke's 40 year experiences



WORKS! 14
 By my time in 1 Glosters, a primrose back-badge on a black background was intrinsic to regimental identity – similar to a corporate logo. This colour combination is also very attractive to trout and so, over the years, as much for nostalgic reasons as practical, I've created numerous flies and lures that combine them.
 Talking Plenty/At The Bench with Peter Storey



KENZIE The Wild Goose-Man 20
 In addition to being among the best huntsmen, he was also the middle-weight boxing champion of Lincolnshire. Willock was quite fond of Kenzie, and so was I, as I also came to visit him. He was a very adventurous individual; independent, born of gypsy blood, with negligible school attendance – and a target of the local police due to his unfriendly habit of poaching.
 By Garrett Evans



Long Tippet Flies 22
 What is needed is a fly that is light in mass, but also provides slight "shuttlecock" wind resistance or pull back. An obvious choice of material for this is CDC. Fine synthetics such as Tiemco Aero-Dry Wing also work.
 Around Ruapehu with Nick Taransky

Camping In Snow – No Better Time 26

I found a campsite just as it starting snowing again – securing shelter became top priority. With the tent up my next task was a fire. I've learnt to always search for driftwood if it's available. It tends to be drier and burns hotter than fallen beech. Soon a hot fire was warming my hands and drying my feet as my billy boiled in prep for a feast of Moroccan Couscous a La Backcountry.
 By Ainsley Haslett



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Getting Hooked In The Brindabellas 36

I stumbled upon this river several years ago when camping at Micalong Creek at Wee Jasper, in the NSW countryside. Its tumbling heads, spilling into deep emerald green pools had me hooked early.
 Matt Hoole profiles the Goodradigbee River, NSW



The King Cometh 40

I "guesstimated" its length and girth by placing the rod in the water and using it as a measure, resulting in an estimated length of 39 inches and girth of 32 inches. Although tempting, after much deliberation I chose against casting to it as I had my Sage Vt2 - 9-foot 9- weight single handed rod, aka "Tinkerbell"
 Chasing quinnat on the Kitimat River, British Columbia, with Garry Scrimgeour and Pat Fargey



Trout or Salmon Pâté 52

This is a recipe we used as part of a platter in catering a wedding in the New Year. Special Thanks to friend, colleague and wonderful chef Rex Morgan for the recipe idea and in fact making it for the occasion . . .
 Wild to the Table with Tony Smith



Cover

Another willow grub down the hatch (Nick Taransky)

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A maturing 6lb jack, just developing a bump on its head. What a beautiful fish . . .



Camping In Snow – No Better Time

By Ainsley Haslett (aka nzadventurer)

I (Pat) had agreed to tie all the flies for the trip: 25 flies each. For some reason Garry had yet to unpack his fly-tying gear after his move from Calgary to Edmonton. Clearly questionable priorities or perhaps he had just "Tom Sawyered" me. When researching what flies to tie it seemed like larger flies, 3 to 5 inches in length, were used most often. This was quite a bit bigger than the flies we typically use for Coho and Chum salmon. I also decided to weight most flies because Chinook tend migrate upstream using the deeper sections where there is considerable current. Anything that would help get the fly deeper was desirable. I also wanted a fly style that had a larger profile but did not require a huge amount of material. This would improve ease of casting and increase sink rates. I picked an Intruder-style pattern that included rubber legs inspired by the Scott Howell's [Squidro](#) style of flies. Everything was tied heavy duty. I wanted to be sure that if Garry hooked a big Chinook, it did not get off because the hook part of the equation failed. Chartreuse coloured marabou [Popsicle](#)-style flies show-up hanging in the corner of the mouths of disproportionate number Chinook salmon photographs in fishing magazines. Garry, ever the conspiracy theorist, figures that this is being done by guides trying to put other anglers off the scent and they had actually swapped the fly out for the photograph. I tied a range of colours but Chartreuse was definitely the ticket. In hindsight, I could have tied three chartreuse flies for each of us and been done with it, and we would likely had caught the same number of fish. Oh well, time tying flies meant less time watching Netflix - no one needs to watch more Netflix.

I have always been a fan of denier thread which I like because it is thin yet strong and supple and also as it can be coloured using felt pens. I tied all flies for our trip with 100 denier thread. For shanks I used a mix of [Waddington's](#) and some old 4/0 saltwater hooks I repurposed to the task by cutting off the hook and using the long shaft as a surrogate

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