

Spey Casting in Salt Water??? by Lyall

Yes, it was a weekend in casting heaven up at Forster with the only master casting instructor and two handed casting instructor in the southern hemisphere Brian Henderson and his wife Anne. Nathan and I jumped into the car for the six hour drive north and conversations always ended with the statement “straight line path of the rod tip!!!!” It was like putting two pigeon fanciers together and all they talk about is pigeons.

When we arrived at the accommodation at Smith’s Lake near Forster we knew the weekend was going to be good. A large expanse of casting grass and a lake open to the sea in the background bode well.



The course caters for a maximum of six casters and we had guys from as far afield as Ballarat in Victoria, Sydney-siders and mid north coast New South Wales. We were a diverse group and to quote Bryan Pratt, there are only two things which level all of society: fishing and nudist colonies. We opted for the former.



All meals were included in the cost of the casting course. Anne cooked up a storm of super-healthy food with absolutely nothing pre-processed. If you went to a health spa, zillion dollar hotel, you could not get food as good as Anne’s. Morning and afternoon teas turned into fly casting forums. For fly casters what could be better?



Oh, the casting ... everyone was enthusiastic. Nathan was a natural and applied his Certified Casting Instructor skills to his two handed casting instruction from Brian.

It was forecast and it happened. The heavens opened and down came heavy rain. Ultimately, Brian was left with only two students and you don't have to guess who they were.

Day one was casting theory and practice with the single Spey cast, double Spey cast, snake roll cast and more. On day two we did more grass casting then down to the salt water lake to put our practice into practice.





OK, so Nathan caught two mullet on the fly and I only caught one in our twenty minutes of fishing, but I don't feel bad ... much. Note the length of the Spey rods in the background – 13 or 14 feet - massive !!!

The weekend was all about technical casting and fantastic food. I can't wait to do it again. The catch cry is Spey All The Way !!! For more information, see <http://www.flyfishing.com.au/Courses.html>