• Anything related to fly fishing in Australia from 1833 to current.
• Fresh and salt water – all species.
• If it has any history available even better.
• Photos, slides, postcards or newspaper cuttings.
• Fly fishing tackle and ephemera from 1830s to present. The earliest tackle would have been manufactured in England. May include bags, scales, line winders, lines, casts, creels, jackets, hats etc.
• Fly rods – earliest would be English, such as Hardy, Farlows etc.
• Fly rods – Australian. These may include Southam, Gillies, Turville, JR Green, Slazenger, Robert Cox, Butterworth etc.
• Australian fly rods by Suffrein – from 1872.
• Landing nets by Hardy, Streamcraft and others.
• Fly reels - English up to 1960s.
• Fly reels – Australian such as Gillies, Hartleys, Dawson, Rainbow, Hartsport, Southam, Goulburn, Spading, Atlas, Derwent, Austin, Streamcraft and more.
• Catalogues from Mick Simmons, Hartleys, MSD (Melbourne Sports Depot), Gillies, Sydney Fishing Tackle Supply, Hordern, Eastways and other various stores and often hardware suppliers.
• Flies from earliest times – especially those in boxes, or owned by someone of renown.
• Diaries – especially from 1800s and to mid 1900s.
• Books on fly fishing – especially Australian or with Australian content.
• Old magazines and papers with Australian fly fishing content.
• Books, booklets and newsletters from fishing and fly fishing clubs with fly fishing content.
• Tourism posters featuring fishing.
• Old film footage of fly fishing or fly fishers.
• Branded boxes and ephemera from Eastways, Mick Simmons, Bridges Bros, Charles Davis, Allen and Slater, Wigram and Ross etc.
• Annual reports from fly fishing clubs, or reports with fly fishing content.
• Fly fishing clothing from the past.
• Display cases suitable for the museum.
• Items the Museum can auction or sell to raise funds.
• In kind support if you are a cabinet maker for example and can help build displays.
The Australian Fly Fishing Museum – at Clarendon, will open 4 May 2013 and will be a living exhibition of historical artefacts and experiences that celebrate the art and craft of fly fishing for trout and other fish species in Australia. It will be the first of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and one of very few fly fishing museums in the world.

Although designated a museum, it is expected that it delivers a rich, vibrant and interactive set of experiences that will enable visitors to understand – and experience – the technique of fly fishing. Anglers may even take the opportunity to try fly fishing on the South Esk River just a few metres away.

A TASMANIAN FIRST

Whilst fly fishing for a range of salt water species is popular for some, the vast majority of anglers across the nation target trout as their fly fishing quarry.

Tasmania has a long and rich heritage of fly fishing that precedes the acclimatisation of trout in 1864. In the Hobart Town Magazine, March 1833, Thomas Richards penned ‘A Days Fishing on the Plenty’, catching mullet on a ‘red hackle’ or ‘fern fly’. Many years later Dick Wigram was the first writer to really promote Tasmania through his angling writing and later came David Scholes and Don Gilmour.

However, it was James Youl from Symmons Plains in Tasmania’s northern midlands who ushered in a new era when he successfully developed the technology to transport trout ova from England in 1864, ova that hatched in the salmon ponds at Plenty and from which trout were eventually distributed throughout the nation and the southern hemisphere.

This is just one reason that it is highly appropriate that Tasmania hosts the Australian Fly Fishing Museum.

The museum will be housed in the shepherd’s cottage within the grounds of Clarendon House situated on the South Esk River, close to the original Symmons Plains home of James Youl.

The Australian Fly Fishing Museum is part of the National Trust.

Foundation Friends – a chance to help

Foundation Friends are invited to contribute prior to the opening of the museum. There will be a permanent acknowledgement display on which your details will appear. This will take the form of a welcome wall – probably of Gold, Silver and Bronze fish which will include donors details.

Gold ($1500), Silver ($1000) and Bronze ($500).

DETAILS FOR FOUNDATION FRIENDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DISPLAY

Name:......................................................................................................
City of Residence:....................................................................................

By signing the below I am authorising the above details to appear on the Foundation Friends of the Australian Fly Fishing Museum acknowledgement display.

Signature:......................................................... Date:...............................

PAYMENT DETAILS

I enclose a cheque / money order for $ .........................

OR

Please debit $ .................................... from my credit card

Credit card type (Please circle)       VISA       MASTERCARD
Card Number:..........................................................................................
Card Expiry:........../......../........
Cardholder’s Name:.............................................................................
Cardholder’s Signature:........................................................................
Email:.....................................................................................................

☐ I am happy for AFFM to email me information.