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Chairman's Newsletter May 2020

### Virtual Fly-tying and other Lockdown News

Dear Finsbury Members,

We've all been amazed by the speed at which digital innovation has arrived in our homes and offices. Wine Estates are doing virtual tastings and chefs have been sharing their favourite recipes online. In case you thought otherwise, I am not about to start a virtual fly-tying moment with you but rather my aim is share some of the issues that have attracted the recent attention of the board, management and staff.


Our major focus over the past 2 months has been on employee wellness, job security and safety of the Farm. I am happy to report that all staff members are well and have received their new normal remuneration during the lockdown period. A core of staff remained on the property during Lockdown; they have been recognised with an additional stipend for assisting us in this regard.

Taking into account the limited work that was performed during lockdown, the Farm is in good shape. All houses are regularly visited and checked. For example taps and toilets are tested and flushed. All appears to be safe and sound in these respects.

Fish farming and hatcheries are permitted to operate under Level 4. Accordingly all field staff has returned. They are well and are pleased to have returned to work. Boredom for many was a common experience. Detailed health and safety protocols have been introduced for those who have returned taking into account the type of work being undertaken and on-site accommodation.

# Finsbury

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We anticipate doing limited work on the rivers this winter because of the low summer rains. We will however concentrate on riverine areas and do controlled burning in selected parts. Initial work in this regard has already been accomplished and firebreaks around houses will be done shortly.

Our expectations are keenly focused on the details of permitted activity with Level 3. We hope that we will be able to obtain the return of housekeepers and prepare for visits by members. The ability to cross provincial borders will be a key point to watch.

The board and the management team have commenced work on the 2020/21 budget. The emphasis will be on efficiency and the cutting/postponing of non-essential capex and operational expenses. We recognise that we are dealing with a new normal; further details will be available towards the latter part of June.

The new world will shape our recreational choices. I anticipate that Finsbury with its low housing density, accessible open spaces and multifaceted features will be THE PLACE to visit. Look forward to sharing this prospect.

In the meantime we salute the sacrifices and contributions of our fellow citizens and stretch out to those who are in need. One hears of so many individual efforts that will bring our society into a togetherness and new hope.

May we all journey in safeness.

Until next time best wishes,

Mike