

TIGHT LINES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON
FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

DECEMBER 2018

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Cover: Graeme McIntyre on the Hinemaiaia river (Robyn Gray)

CLUB MEETING

Monday 3rd December

Annual Christmas Party

Paul Baker will give a summary of the World Championships he recently attended as part of the New Zealand team, held in Italy

This is a social evening with supper provided. Partners are welcome.

New Members

Ken Clarke
Alexander MacFarlane
Arthur Vaughan

Club Trip

December 8 / 9 Lake Otamangakau and Lake Kuratau Float Tubing

Onstream There is no onstream in December

Fly Tying

There is no Fly Tying in December

Future Club Meetings

There is no club meeting held in January

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Another year is almost over and no doubt you are all planning your Christmas excursions. Hopefully you have some time to enjoy the outdoors and that some piscatorial pursuits will come your way.

Take care on the roads and we will look forward to some of your exploits filling the pages of our next magazine.

Wellington Flyfishers Club has long been one of the founding members of the New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers and this year, the Federation has decided to have a levy free year for its member clubs and concentrate on improving its individual membership with once again, a subscription free year.

Full details of how to join can be found on the Federation's website and as an additional incentive there will be a ballot for a new echo switch rod which will be drawn in March next year. This would be a great opportunity to have a go at this increasingly popular method of trout and salmon fishing at no cost. Poster in this magazine.

The question of whether treble hooks should be allowed for trout fishing has created debate over many years.

The Kapiti Club is convinced there is no place for treble hooks and are surveying anglers to see if there is enough support to take the issue to Fish & Game. In this magazine is their proposal and our committee would appreciate your comments.

All the best for the festive season.

Strato

IT'S CALLED 'FISHING' NOT 'CATCHING'.

Following the severe storm which hit the Kaimanawas and Kawekas in September, it was always going to be interesting as to how our club trips for October (Rangitikei) and November (Mohaka) would turn out.

The trip to the Rangitikei in October was notable for the large scale devastation which was apparent everywhere in the way of slips scarring most hillsides, as described in our Rangitikei club trip report in the last magazine. We hadn't expected the Mohaka to be placed with similar problems but an enquiry to Pan Pac Forestry as to whether the Jock Sutton access road was open, resulted in a comment that the gate was currently closed to enable the road to be repaired following the September storm.

A couple of our club members had visited the Mohaka the previous week and while a few fish were caught the bigger ones were not in very good condition.

Nevertheless we arrived at our lodge (Titiokoura/Time Out) on the Napier Taupo Road to find that two of our trip members who had gone up early had only managed one small fish for a few hours of fishing.

Saturday morning saw us up early and to our surprise Jock Sutton Road was open and it would appear that we would be the first to have fished that area since the September storm. Our anticipation was heightened by the fact that within a few casts a small feisty rainbow came to the net. Three hours later we had little more to show for our efforts with a couple of small fish caught but a beautiful proportioned 6 pounder to one angler certainly made his day. A second angler was fortunate

to have a trout simply float down the river to be netted and subsequently dispatched for a later feast.

The afternoon saw us drive all the way to Te Hoe but river crossings were impossible and although we clambered upstream fishing the bypass run on the way to the gorge it produced none of the usual exciting fishing that this run normally produces and we came back to the car rather dispirited and a few 1½ pounders caught swung downstream using a red setter was all to show for our efforts.

Sunday saw three of us head home with the prospect of fishing the Tuki Tuki on the way. Again our favourite pool at Patangata produced very little although some fish were visible. However exploring further downstream, five very nice fish including a well-proportioned 4 pounder made the day for one angler. Another kilometre of walking and a promising run in under the willows finally showed three fish actively feeding. After many casts, two were finally hooked but both lost which typified the whole weekend.

We certainly fished hard and perhaps next time 'catching' will be more apparent.

ANTIQUE FINGER VICE

(used for size 16# hooks)

Suitable for a collector

Contact Strato 3863740

We need club members to assist for whatever time suits. Phone Strato if you can help.

Kapiti Fly Fishing Club

40 Harry Shaw Way

Raumati South

Kapiti Coast 5032

Dear President and members of the Wellington Fly Fishing Club

At our recent Annual General Meeting a proposal was table 'banning the use of treble hooks,' and we would like to establish if the members of your club would support the banning of treble hooks on trout fishing lures. One of the concerns with the use of treble hooks is the damage they do to trout when be caught, research indicates that the inner mouth of the fish is damaged, and the fish is like to die from infection caused by the injuries.

The Taupo Fishery has banned the use of treble hooks and this was influenced by the fact that you have to release any fish below the minimum size of 350 mm. In the Wellington Region we have 27 rivers where you have to release a trout when their total length reaches a certain size, as an example the Hutt river has a maximum size of 450 mm. Plus most of our rivers in our Region have a daily bag limit on the number fish you can take which encourages people to release fish that may have been damaged through the use of treble hooks.

As part of our research we contacted Michel Dedual – DOC Fishery Scientist for Taupo Region and Michel response was as follows:

You are right, the debate about treble hooks has been going on for quite some time and the pros and cons make it difficult to unequivocally go one way or the other.

I think that three parameters should be taken into account t:

- 1) Are those hooks used in a prevalent catch-and-release fishery?*
- 2) Are they used in a fishery that has size limit?*
- 3) The ratio size of hooks/size of fish should be considered.*

However, that last point is virtually never reported in the literature.

If treble hooks are used in C&R then it doesn't make sense to use them as the hooks are generally harder to take out, hence increasing handling leading to mortality. I don't know if barbless treble hooks would make much of a difference either.

If they are use in a fishery with size limit, then the size of the treble will be the key factor, and this is where some of the arguments start. The pro- treble hooks argue that small fish cannot ingest large treble hooks which means that they are unlikely to be hooked deep in the throat and die. The anti-treble argues that treble hooks on a lure with a motion is likely to hook juvenile fish in other part of the body like the eyes.

Therefore, I believe that the only case where the use of treble hooks is defensible is where you have a put-and-take fishery (minimum C&R) and no size limit.

In Taupo we don't allow treble for the anti-treble reasons explained above i.e. there is a large prevalence of catch-and-release in Taupo river fisheries and we have a size limit. Furthermore, there is also a compliance issue with treble hooks. They could be used to do "mooching" as with salmon. This technique is basically attaching a treble hook to a fly and adding weight that will make the rig very effective at foul hooking fish when they are visible and concentrated in shallow water on the spawning grounds. Of course, we don't support such technique.

I have included a good review on catch-and-release debating about treble hooks.

I hope that this will help and if you need further info let me know.

Tight line

Michel

Fish and Game have been promoting the value of 'catch and release' as a way of maintaining a healthy fishery and many of our club members actively practice 'catch and release' in our local rivers. Over the past few months we have actively researched the impact of the use of treble hooks and the 'pros and cons,' the one consistent message relates to the damage caused to the fish and to the person either trying to

remove the hook from the trout's mouth or their own persons.

We would be interested in obtaining your members views on the banning of 'treble hooks,' and we look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Secretary Kapiti Fly Fishing Club

OPEN DAY

The next Open Day at the Capital Trout Centre will be on Sunday 2nd December. Please mark your calendars.

Many thanks to Hunting & Fishing, Alicetown and Steves Fishing Shop, Ghuznee Street for their continued support in issuing the licences (tickets).

Registration tickets are at and Steve's Fishing Shop and Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing.

The day begins at 9am and we have the last group come through at 3pm.

We need club members to assist for whatever time suits. Phone Strato if you can help.

Plastic Bags. With the phasing out of supermarket bags we still need to wrap the fish caught, in a bag. We would be happy to receive supplies of bread bags and newspaper delivery bags for use at events at the Capital Trout Centre.



Hunting & Fishing

NEW ZEALAND

*Huge range of stock on sale
New range of Sims Tributary
Waders & Boots*

Waders \$449.00

or

*Combo - Waders & Boots \$499.00
Available in men's, women's and
children's sizes*

*Club discount 10% available with your
membership card*

*Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing
21st Birthday Sale
1st – 2nd December 2018*

Inter Club Fly Tying Competition

The inter club fly tying trophy returned to Wellington last night after a very close competition.

Due to other commitments the Kapiti Club was unable to field a team this year and so it became a battle between the Hutt Valley Club and Wellington.

The level of tying this year was extremely high and both teams are to be congratulated. The Wellington team of Gordon Baker, Paul Baker and Jim McLean finally prevailed with a score of 232 to Hutt Valley's 227.

Paul Baker also picked up the prize for best fly with a well tied Copper John. Well done guys.

Many thanks to the judges Tony Houpt (chief judge) John Miller (Hutt Valley) and Ross Gigg (Wellington) who did an excellent job scoring the flies on what turned out to be minute differences. Also thanks to Carmen for the catering, especially the sausage rolls.



Join the NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers



ECHO SWING 73174, 117 740, 2040gsm

and go in the draw to win
this awesome
switch rod package,
RRP \$835



**NOT A MEMBER, NOT IN THE DRAW
GO TO WWW.NZFFA.CO.NZ
AND CHOOSE "JOIN US".**



MEETING VENUE (TARARUA TRAMPING CLUB ROOMS)

4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria

From motorway:

Follow Vivian Street and turn left onto Cambridge Terrace, then first right into Elizabeth Street at the next set of traffic lights.

Travelling South on Kent Terrace:

Turn left into Elizabeth Street at the first set of traffic lights after the Embassy Theatre (by the Liquor Store).

Additional parking is available at the Clyde Quay school – use the top gate.



Casting Tuition

Anyone wanting casting tuition please contact Strato

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the next issue is 10pm Friday 18th January
As a guide for article length – anything from 250-450 words per page. Early submission preferred – items not received by the deadline may not be included. Format text for A5 page size. Please copy and paste text into an email and ensure images do not exceed 1Mb. Mail hard copy to PO Box 9236, Te Aro, Wellington; or email the editor. (Attached files often result in incoming emails being treated as spam and being deleted by the server).

The newsletter depends on contributions from club members and all articles are eligible for the annual Literary Prize awarded at the AGM in May each year.

Advertising: The club has a policy of only accepting advertising relating to fishing. Commercial rates \$25 per half page, members no charge. Centrefold (Promotional material only) \$75. Contact the club secretary. **Please support our advertisers** – tell them you saw their ad in *Tight Lines*.

Receive the Newsletter as a pdf via email

Contact the club secretary to be added to the mail list (Please check your email settings so that the newsletter is not deleted as 'spam' or 'junk')

COMMITTEE MEETING –6.15PM second Monday every month.

Any club member who has matters which they believe should be considered by the committee may discuss them with a committee member by phone, or at the club meeting, or write to the secretary.

THE HELPDESK

Helpdesk is an opportunity for those attending club meetings to have their questions answered. This is a chance for newer members to have fly fishing mysteries unravelled. Tying techniques and problems, rigs, knots, fly selection, issues, casting, how to and where to go. Bring your problems and try the Helpdesk out. It will be manned by a different senior club member each month.

WEBSITE

The club website and facebook pages provide online information, contact details and useful links.

<http://wellingtonflyfishers.org.nz>

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

To join the club: collect a form at a club meeting; download a copy from the club website; or phone a committee member to have a form mailed to you. Mail the completed form to PO Box 9236, Te Aro, Wellington, or hand it in at the next meeting with your subscription and joining fee.

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the first Monday of every month except January at the Tararua Tramping Club rooms, 4 Moncreiff Street, Mt. Victoria, Wellington.

Tight Lines, the club newsletter is published monthly, except January, and is also available to club members via email as a pdf –contact the editor to be added to the distribution list.

Fees 1 April 2018 - 31 March 2019

Full member or family membership \$35, Junior membership no fee.

Joining fee \$10

Overseas Newsletter

postage \$45

Enquiries wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com

WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB MISSION

To establish, maintain and conduct a club for the encouragement and promotion of flyfishing and all activities pertaining thereto.

2018-2019 COMMITTEE

President	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Past President	Paul Baker	970-2595
Secretary	Heather Millar	386-3049
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