

TIGHT LINES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

FEBRUARY 2015

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Cover: Early morning at the Reed Pool ,
Tongariro River by Piero Bertocchi

Any articles published in this newsletter are the opinions of the author alone and do not necessarily represent the views of the club as a whole or other members of the club.



MARCH CLUB MEETING

Monday 2nd February

Tararua Tramping Club Rooms, 4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria
7.30pm

Holiday Anecdotes: Tall tales & true from the wilds of the routeburn to the Taupo tributaries

A club meeting is usually held on the first Monday of every month (except January) even if the Monday is a Public Holiday (Waitangi Day, Easter Monday, Queen's Birthday or Opening Day)

Events This Month

Club Trip: 28th-1st

Fly Tying: 16th

On-Stream Day: 21st

Capital Trout Centre: 22nd

Wellington Regionals: 15th



Future Club Meetings:

March 2nd Salt water flyfishing in Rarotonga.

April 6th



New Members

Todd Saxton; Bron Edwards; Alan Pattison; Darren Lyle

President's Report

Summer must be here. The Monarch Butterfly caterpillars are eating all our Swan Plant and there is the odd cicada around.

River levels are quite low due to the excellent Christmas weather but unfortunately, too much of a good thing may cause problems.

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break and that it included some successful fishing experiences which you can all tell us about on the next club night (2nd February).

Up-coming events include the normal on-stream day, the club trip and flytying night together with the Wellington Regional Competition on Sunday 15th February and the next pond open day on the 22nd February.

Look forward to seeing you all at the club meeting.

Strato



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The Flyfishing Experts

Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ
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Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500 Facsimile: 0064-4-589 9520

Six Pounds Makes a Difference

For my last trip for 2014, I fished a lesser known backcountry river in the Southern Tararua Range. The river is described as having good wilderness angling but apparently there is a fair bit of water between fish. It looked like a reasonable seven kilometres on the map back at home on the computer. The thought of fishing new waters made the two and half hour or so hike go relatively quick and there were some pleasant views from the saddle and great vegetation along the way through the red beech forest. Unfortunately, my new Simms boots were not broken in as well as I thought and I arrived with two annoying heel blisters – it was going to be a long day.

The weather forecast was good but not perfect - mostly fine with winds strengthening through the day. After rigging up and wolfing down an orange, I ventured off. To my surprise, I spotted a reasonable trout holding in some shallow run in the first stretch of water. I was able to get directly behind it for a cast. But after the second cast, it sensed something wasn't right and it drifted downstream with the placid current. Ah well – at least there are fish here I mused.

I carried on upstream without a care in the world – it was the holidays! The river was super-clear gliding over greyish rocks which are consistent with the headwaters of the Tararuas. I was able to make out one set of angler footprints on the sandy bank as well as some deer tracks, I think. The river description was right –the fish were not numerous. I was able to observe the occasional fish from some high banks but they seemed attuned to threat from above and spooked easily. A few hours passed with nothing to show when I found one – some movement gave its position away. My short cast was on the mark and it took the dry – but this fishless day contributed to a rushed strike and it popped out as easy as that.

With the lunch consumed and the better part of the day gone it was time to start thinking about the long-drawn-out tramp back to the car. More seemingly uninhabited pools were searched. I chided

myself - you can't catch a fish to save yourself. The next pool looked promising so I made a pact to either see or catch one from this pool. Sure enough there was one in the eye of the pool and it was of a good size.

After going well downstream to cross, I approached slowly. I changed my nymph to a weighed hare and copper. With an easy cast the indicator dry lobed over the dark figure and drifted past leisurely and then lurched downwards – I was on. A good fish, it punched its way deep into the current seeking protection within the rocks which had given him haven in the past. I wrestled it in to a small sandy bay but it shot downstream at the sight of the net and all I can remember was seeing its green back glimmering. More repeated runs dodging the net and then one twisting leap and I lost some tension. I thought the worse – but the weight persisted and control was regained. Once more, I coaxed it into the little backwater where the big brown was smoothly netted.

Relief, elation and a loud triumphant cry all followed. Beautifully spotted it weighed six pounds neat. The walk back was still unbearably long but I had my best fish for the season.



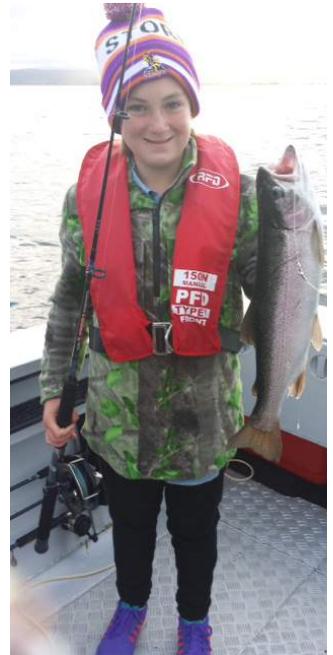
Piero

Taupo photo essay

Happy new year to you all.



Lake fishing started slowly for us however, turned up the goods on our last few days.



Christie

Moncrieff joined me in the new year and enjoyed some river mouth fishing, river fishing , harling and jigging.



The fish in this picture are from Lake Taupo and all in fantastic condition. Some with a belly full of Koura. The big fish had 25 plus Koura .



No he has not grown his hair and gone blond . Rob with toi toi under his hat.



Rob and Christie off to the Major Jones on a fine afternoon.

Marion

FishScene is the new Fly Fishing Tackle Shop in Wellington own/operated by club member Jeff Wood.

The Shop is located at 1C Taurima Street, Haitaitai. (small brown building next to Burger Fuel)

FishScene was started by Jeff to offer top line products online & now has this great shop to go to.

I have been to the shop & brought gear of Jeff since it opened in early December 2014 and he offers a great range of fly tying products (hooks, feathers, etc) from a number of suppliers. He also sells Loom, Manic Tackle, Airflo, & Rio products.

All products are sold at **FishScene** are sold at really good prices, so go see Jeff.

Tackle Shops like **FishScene** & Hunting & Fishing another fish tackle shops around New Zealand need to be supported.

Warren

FishScene Ltd

FlyFishing and FlyTying Specialists

Airflo Super Dri Flylines

Bandit, Ballistic, Elite, Nymph \$119-95

*Super Dri repels water, dirt and surface scum better

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Shop Online: www.FishScene.co.nz

Jeff Wood

FishScene Ltd

Ph: 021 204 8978

E: fishscene@live.com

1c Taurima Street, Hataitai Village, Wellington

Just through the tunnel

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9am – 5.30pm

Thursday: 10am – 7pm, Saturday: 9am – 1pm

CLUB EVENTS THIS MONTH

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day - Sunday 15th

The On-Stream Day will be on the **Wainuiomata River**. On-stream days are opportunities for members who are new to flyfishing to learn from an experienced angler. Attendance at one or two on-stream days will help in gaining an understanding of fishing rivers. Develop rudimentary casting skills at our Hataitai Park sessions before coming to an on-stream day. It is your responsibility to have a current NZ sports fishing licence. These can be purchased from Hunting & Fishing, 444 Cuba St Alicetown, or online from Fish & Game.

Contact Strato (386-3740) before 9pm on the Wednesday prior to get details of where to meet. Limited numbers can be accommodated and acceptance will be on a first come first served basis.

Casting Practice Hataitai Park 6.30 pm Wednesdays

Casting tuition is available throughout summer until daylight saving ends, except on on-stream days when casting practice is held on-stream. Being able to handle windy conditions will do much for your confidence and success on-stream. Any member who needs help with casting but is unable to attend the scheduled sessions should phone Gordon Baker (027 494 6487) to arrange an alternative time. Gordon is a Federation of Fly Fishers certified casting instructor.

Rod & Reel Wellington Regional Fly Fishing Competition

The Rod & Reel Wellington Regional Flyfishing Competition will be held on Sunday 15th February on the Ruamahunga River, based at Gladstone.

Controllers needed: being a controller is a great way to learn a few tips by watching the competitors and you will also have the opportunity for on-stream sessions in appreciation of your time.

Contact Paul Baker by email or phone evenings 970 2595



David Williams, 6lb 2oz, Waitahanui.

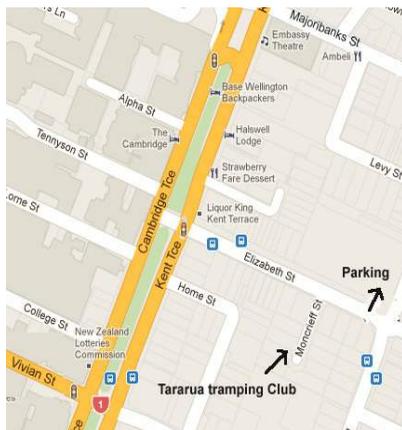
MEETING VENUE (TARARUA TRAMPING CLUB ROOMS) 4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria

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.



PLANNED CLUB TRIPS

Contact Strato Cotsilinis for details.

Weekend Club Trips away from Wellington are organized each month. Accommodation is usually prearranged for the Friday and Saturday nights (dates given are days fishing). Transport is arranged as necessary, with costs shared.

Contact each organizer at the club meeting. Novice fishers are encouraged to participate.

Although assistance will be available, basic casting and fishing skills are required and will make your trip more enjoyable.

March

Dates: 28th Feb – 1st March

Destination: Tukituki

Organizer: Strato 386 3740

Upcoming trips:

March 28-29th

April

Feather Merchants Fly of the Month



Venue: Tararua Tramping Club Library
Monday 16th February, 7.30pm

(Access through side door on north side of building)

Cicada

One of the most effective, bulky, summer, terrestrial dry flies. Very useful when Cicada are obvious. A great wilderness searching pattern. Bulky enough to support a reasonably heavy nymph.



Nelson Brown

Hook	TMC 5262 size
Thread	Black 6/0
Body	Deer hair
Underwing	Pearl Krystal flash
Wing	Shimazaki Air wing
Thorax	Deer hair

www.feathermerchants.co.nz



If anyone has suggestions for fly patterns they would like to see tied at the flyfying meetings please let Gordon know 027 494 6487. This will give an opportunity to plan ahead and order materials well in advance.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the next issue is **10pm Monday 16th February**

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. Fly patterns requiring NZ falcon feathers will not be accepted. Please copy and paste text into an email: Attached files will not be opened; Images exceeding 1Mb will not be downloaded. Mail copy to PO Box 9236, Te Aro, Wellington; or email the editor chrispa@hotmail.com.

The newsletter is dependant 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 editor and/or club secretary to be added to the mail list (Please check your email settings so that the newsletter is not deleted as 'spam')

COMMITTEE MEETING – 5.45 pm, Monday 9th February

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. Committee Members – the meeting will be at Petherick Towers, 38 Waring Taylor St.

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 unraveled. 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.

FISH'N TIPS

Summer fishing is at its best – dry fly action with cicada patterns, especially late evening. Fish are well fed with plenty of insect life around – the presence of numerous different types of prey means that trout become very indiscriminate and will take almost any pattern. If there are masses of one insect species available to the fish, switching to a completely different pattern, rather than “matching the hatch” will make you fly stand out in the crowd.



CLUB WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

The club website and facebook page provide online information about the club, contact details and activities, as well as links to river level data, weather and fishing information.

<http://www.wellingtonflyfishers.org.nz>



BEST FISH AWARDS

Current records:
1 April 2014 - 31 March 2015.

Stirling Sports heaviest fish (junior)

Christie Moncrieff, 1.55 kg, rainbow, Tongariro

Hunting & Fishing heaviest fish (senior)

Paul Whitburn, 9lb 2oz, Rainbow Jack, Rotoaira

(NOTE: entries for heaviest fish of the year must be received within 30 days of capture. Entries received in March for fish caught outside the 30 day period will not qualify)

Wallace Condition factor: best-conditioned fish

Chris Anastasiadis, 3.67kg, 53cm, rainbow Jack, Tongariro, CF 88

This month's best fish (month to date of newsletter deadline)

Neil Hollebhone , 2.25lb , CF66.66

Runners up:

If you think your fish qualifies phone Peter Nagle (479-4944) or email peter.nagle@xtra.co.nz

* Calculate your condition factor online at the Wellington Flyfishers

WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB MISSION

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

2014-15 COMMITTEE

President	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Past President	Paul Baker	970-2595
Vice President		
Secretary	Heather Millar	387-3405
Treasurer	Carmen Cotsilinis	386-3740
Newsletter Editor	Chris Paulin	027 874 7326
Librarian	Warren Horne	387-3405
Website	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Club Trips	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
	Piero Bertocchi	025 540 960
Catering	Marion Hall	477-0061
Catering	Robyn Gray	475-9572
Print Manager	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Fly Tying & Casting	Gordon Baker	384-6513
		027 494-6487
Club Competitions	Paul Baker	970-2595
Committee	Peter Buxton	472-3456
	John Fahey	021 636 033

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 2014 - 31 March 2015

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

Joining fee \$10 Overseas Newsletter postage \$45