

# TIGHT LINES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON  
FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

## February 2020

Club Meeting	2
President's Page	3-4
Club Trip	5
On Stream	5
Flytying Night	5
Fickle Manawatu Rainbows	6-8
Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships	8
Royal Wulff (Fly of the Month)	9
Hunting and Fishing	10
Meeting Venue	11
Casting Tuition	11
Helpful Links,	12
Newsletter Contributions	12-13
Ad Policy	13
Get PDF of Newsletter	13
Committee Meeting	14
Helpdesk	14
Club Website	14
Membership Information	15
Club Mission	16
Club Committee Information	16



**Cover:** Braedan De Lange winning photo

# **FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 7.30pm

**Guest Speaker: Paul Doscher**

## **Fishing the spring creeks of Yellowstone Valley north of the National Parks**

Paul is currently visiting New Zealand and has offered to do a presentation for us. He is a long-time volunteer with Trout Unlimited in the US having had involvement in every part of the organisation from helping run youth education in his local chapter to serving on the national board of trustees. He has led an effort to engage Trout Unlimited members in developing collaborations with land trusts to protect important cold water streams and their watersheds.

Paul will also do a presentation for the March Meeting on the eastern American forest, European settlement and the impact on streams and cold water fisheries

# President's Page

I hope that the Christmas break treated you and your families well, and the New Year is off to a good start. I am never overly hopeful of good fishing over Christmas, with crowds of people about and the weather not particularly settled. And so it proved this year; but time spent with family is the most important aspect of Christmas anyway.

What struck me on our trip, which went as far as Wanaka; is just how poorly anglers are treated (or are prepared to accept) in terms of access for their sport. While we see growth in resources such as mountain biking parks and bike trails catering for a range of biking skills, I found prime fishing areas either locked off (Deans Bank, Upper Clutha), disrupted by picnickers and campers, or spoiled by jet boaters showing off in shallow waters (Paddock Bay, Lake Wanaka). Clearly resources must be shared, but perhaps we should be pushing harder for at least some areas to be reserved for anglers, or boats travelling at under 5 knots.

The debate on the cycle track along the upper Oreti River is a case in point: 'Fish and Game's concern is that the cycle trail goes through the upper Oreti River and the Oreti Fishery, and that the cycleway would negatively impact the brown trout fishery.' (Report from Stuff in 2016). I don't have any first hand reports on how this particular situation is panning out, but clearly the trend is one way only; more anglers sharing fewer resources.

Another observation was the number of anglers using spinning rods on the fly only section of the Upper Clutha. Perhaps that's just a holiday period issue...

With those points in mind, I am very interested in hearing our next speaker in February and March. Paul Doscher, a visitor from the US and member of Trout Unlimited, has offered to make two presentations to the Club. Paul led an effort to engage Trout Unlimited members in developing collaborations with land trusts to protect important cold water streams and their watersheds.

In February, Paul will talk about fishing in the world famous spring creeks of the Yellowstone valley north of Yellowstone National Park. He is happy to discuss both fishing and other information about the Park.

The March presentation will illustrate the history of the eastern American forest, how it was dramatically changed by European settlement, and the devastating impact it has had on fisheries. I think that many of us can relate to that, but of particular interest is how today they are working to restore those streams and recreate vibrant cold water fisheries.

I hope to see a good turnout, because I think we have much to learn.

Tight lines, and may the cicadas begin to sing.

Paul

# CLUB EVENTS

## CLUB TRIPS

22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Rangitikei

Phone Strato 386 3740 to book your place

## ON STREAM

Saturday February 15<sup>th</sup>

Wainuiomata

Phone Strato 386 3740 by Wednesday 12th

## FLY TYING

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

# FICKLE MANAWATU RAINBOWS

A visit from my brother from overseas over the Christmas period, seemed to be a good excuse to organise a few days flyfishing. We had fished the Mohaka on his last trip which had been reasonably successful and this appeared to be the obvious choice for this new adventure.

The night before we were due to leave, we received a call from one of our very active club members who was in the Mohaka area and found it to be high and coloured due to rain the previous night. As we had intended leaving early in the morning and fishing the Mohaka in the afternoon, we decided to change our plans and visit the Manawatu on the way up. I had fished it regularly many years ago but one of my favourite spots suffered significantly from a flood event and the main pools in that area have not been productive in recent years.

However the stretch of river we intended fishing was very close to the main road so we thought it was worth an hour or two to fill in time on the way further north.

Arriving at the river it looked in excellent condition and the pools which I'd fished many years ago all appeared to be back as they were. Our nymphs were soon exploring the likely runs but we very quickly noticed that the water was extremely warm and although the runs looked promising, I was not too hopeful due to the water temperature.

The first couple of runs produced one fish each which at least got us on our way and I then decided to make for what had previously been my favourite pool on the Manawatu and found it much as I remembered it from years ago.

My brother's first cast produced a feisty 1½ lb rainbow followed in quick succession by another and another. I had hardly got my line in the water by this stage but my brother was having an excellent time. We continued with the nymphs fishing the run into the pool and the rainbows (and one brown) continued to love them.

Just for something different a green woolly bugger swung across the current was successful which showed that the fish were not over fussy. All the fish were in excellent condition and fought very well considering the water temperature.

After an hour and a half we decided it was time to head north and at this stage the pool had produced 13 fish and we had only moved 25 metres. A few more fish on the woolly bugger on the way back to the car gave us 19 for the morning, all of which had been returned to fight another day.

The next morning the Mohaka was its usual beautiful self but fish were hard to come by. The lower reaches were still quite coloured. Two days of fishing produced only a few mainly small but feisty fish but the Mohaka scenery always makes it all worthwhile.

Two weeks later we were again in the Manawatu region so we headed back to the pool which had been so successful earlier. The river had dropped a few inches due to the fine weather over the New Year and there were footprints in the

sand indicating others had also found the spot. Although the water still looked nice and deep there was not the same force to create the turbulence and resulting oxygen which was apparent on the previous visit and after half an hour of fishing we had nothing to show for our efforts. Making our way back to the car however the green woolly bugger swung through any oxygenated rapid runs were rewarded with 7 excellent fish all between 2 and 3½ lb. It was the oxygen they were after. The second trip was also late in the afternoon whereas the previous time it was early morning and no doubt this also played a part in the change of location of the fish on the second time round.

As the summer progresses and I assume the Manawatu will get even lower, the rapid runs will become the focus point of any future trips to the area this year.

Strato

## COMMONWEALTH FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS-Taupo

Controllers required for 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 2020

Contact Doug Snell 027 2730480

See December magazine for full details.

# FLY OF THE MONTH

Venue: Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 7.30pm  
(Access through side door on north side of building)

## Royal Wulff

The Royal Wulff is a must have in any fly box, especially deadly on Rainbows who find it hard to resist. Originated by master angler Lee Wulff around 1930 to imitate a beetle, it has stood the test of time virtually unchanged ever since. It can be used almost anywhere.



Hook	TMC 9300 size 10-16
Thread	6/0 black or red
Wing	White calf body hair
Tail	Moose mane or similar
Body	Peacock herl separated by red floss or thread
Hackle	Brown



# **Hunting & Fishing**

N E W Z E A L A N D

## **SPECIALS**

**RIVERWORKS Primax Waders**

**\$99.99**

**Save \$80 on RRP**

**Selected SIMMS waders 30%  
off**

*Club discount 10% available on flyfishing Purchases  
(excluding specials) with your Membership card*

*Between now and April 2020 we will be shifting to our  
new store at 8 Te Puni Street Petone  
Our Camping and Clothing outlet is already there.  
Fly fishing is still at 444 Cuba Street Alicetown*

Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ  
444 Cuba Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt,  
P O Box 33 206, Petone, Wellington, New Zealand  
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500 Fax: 0064-4-589 952

**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) and then right into Moncrieff Street..

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

**Casting Tuition**

Anyone wanting casting tuition please contact Strato 3863740

## HELPFUL LINKS FOR WELLINGTON FLY FISHERS



[www.creeltackle.com](http://www.creeltackle.com)



<http://wellington.fishandgame.org.nz>



[www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz](http://www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz)



[www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington](http://www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington)



[www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz](http://www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz)



[www.fishscene.co.nz](http://www.fishscene.co.nz)

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the March issue is 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
As a guide for article length – anything from 250-450 words. 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 (**levineha@gmail.com**). (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 pm, 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 2019 - 31 March 2020**

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

Joining fee \$10

Overseas Newsletter including postage \$45

**Enquiries [wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com](mailto: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

### 2020 COMMITTEE

<b>President</b>	Paul Baker	970-2595
<b>Past President</b>	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Secretary</b>	Heather Millar	386-3049
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carmen Cotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Hal Levine	0274200482
<b>Librarian</b>	Warren Horne	386-3049
<b>Website</b>	Peter Nagle	479-4944
<b>Club Trips</b>	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Catering</b>	Robyn Gray	475-9572
<b>Print Manager</b>	Peter Nagle	479-4944
<b>Fly Tying &amp; Casting</b>	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Club Competitions</b>	Paul Baker	970-2595
<b>Committee</b>	Peter Buxton	472-3456
	Brian Bee	021-630075
	Scott Garelli	021-325032
	John Gamble	0275175825
	Linda Brown	0272304770
	John Fahey	021636033