

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

**The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
October 2020**



CONTENTS

Club Meeting	2
President's Page	3
Graham Evan's Talk on Fishing Lake Waikaremoana	5
Capital Trout Centre.....	6
Trout Recipe of The Month #1	7
Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing.....	8
Trip to The Whanganui Headwaters	9
Useful Links.....	10
An Adventure at Lake Tutira	11
Fly of The Month	13
Club Trips	14
On-Stream Day.....	14
Club Meeting Venue	15
Newsletter Contributions	15
Committee Meeting	15
The Helpdesk.....	15
Website.....	15
Club Membership.....	15
Committee	16

Cover: Photo by Braedan De Lange

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.

CLUB MEETING

Monday 5 October, 7.30pm

Tararua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncrieff St, Mount
Victoria, Wellington

Guest Speaker Andrew Rees

Andrew is currently conducting a study aimed at obtaining a Nationwide overview of the health of 10% of New Zealand's lakes. His presentation will focus on Lake Pouriri in the Wairarapa. Also

OPENING DAY LIES

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip:

16-18 October **Rangitikei**
(Call Strato 386 3740 to book)

Fly Tying: Mon 19 October (7.30pm)

On-Stream Day: Sat 31 October **Wainuiomata**

(Call Strato 386 3740 by the Wednesday prior)

Casting Tuition: Anyone wanting casting tuition please contact Strato 386 3740



NEW MEMBERS

Caleb Tarzwell

Jai, Fiona, Tristan and Isaac Forrester

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Last weekend I was able to spend some time fishing the Whanganui River at Manunui and catch up with some Club members there for the weekend; host a couple of friends boat fishing on Lake Rotoaira; and finally on Sunday spend a couple of hours, in brilliant conditions, spotting fresh run fish among literally dozens of spawning rainbows on the Tongariro River. The Whanganui River became discoloured by mid-day, but by then I had already caught some nice fish, and the other venues also proved productive. It is truly a privilege to have so many opportunities and the resources to enjoy them.

On 1 October, the rivers and streams closer to Wellington open for fishing. I am sure more than a few Club members will be testing their skills on Wainuiomata brown trout; hoping that the bigger fish are a little less wary than they were at the end of last season. I am wishing that the strong northerly winds we are currently experiencing will take a break and give us a fair go come October!

Next meeting, we have Andrew Rees speaking to the Club. Andrew is conducting a study aimed at obtaining a nationwide overview of health for 10% of New Zealand's lakes (380) using sediments, which act as natural archives that continuously record environmental history.

To quote Andrew: If one likens ecosystem health to human health and the ecologist's impact assessment to the physician's exam, the dearth of medical history readily becomes apparent. Most lake monitoring programmes are of too short a duration and only start after a system has already begun deteriorating, so the ecologist cannot answer those fundamental questions analogous to the physician's "When did you begin feeling ill? How quickly did you become ill? What symptoms prompted you to seek medical attention?"

The study, 'Lakes380', is funded by MBIE. While it is national in scope, Andrew's presentation will focus on Lake Pounui, Wairarapa. He will discuss how that formed the scientific basis for the programme, and how the programme is progressing. I am looking forward to hearing from Andrew as I fear that the fishing in many of our waterways will continue to deteriorate unless the wider community as well as policy makers gain a better understanding of how human activities impact on the environment.

I am sure that before Andrew gets underway, we will also have a chance for round-up of how people got on with their opening days' fishing.

In November we have the Club auction. Unless you want to deliver items for the auction to a committee member later in the month, please bring them along to the next meeting if you can. And remember, you do not have to be in the market to buy stuff to come along to the auction. It is always more fun if the active bidders get some encouragement to get their bids up to somewhere near reasonable. On that note, if anyone wants to make an offer for a shuttle used to repair nets, see me. I have a few left over from the last auction!

Best of luck with opening day.

Paul

REMINDER - CLUB AUCTION

The November meeting is the Annual Club Auction.

The Auction Entry form has been included
in the Newsletter email.

GRAHAM EVAN'S TALK ON FISHING LAKE WAIKAREMOANA

Graham has been involved with an annual group trip to the lake that started in the mid 1970's. His son Alex made a video of one of the trips, along with original music, that Graham planned to present to our September meeting. Unfortunately, the sound gremlins defeated our resident computer gurus and we couldn't hear the score. I believe it was a shame to miss because the visuals were great. Graham narrated the video and gave us a good account of the fellowship involved in the trips as well as advice on fishing from the shore.

Although they used a boat to get to their base, Marauti hut, (boy they had lots of stuff, no skimping on anything, even brought a fridge!) it is on the track. Rather in the middle though, on the south west arm, so it would be a hearty tramp without water transport. If you get there in late November, early December you get swarms of fish without swarms of people. Graham says to walk slowly on the edge to spot fish from 80-100 metres away, and take relatively short casts with a floating line to where they are heading. Stay out of the water or don't wade past your knees. Use a green wooly bugger, small damsel fly or green beetle and with a wee tweak Bob should be your uncle. In May lots of fish head up the rivers. He said something about a fish on every cast in Mokau stream, and it being boring, but I figure you can always stop and admire Te Urewera National Park. Release the fish or give them to trampers as they wont keep.

Sounds like a great trip for the club to consider.

Hal

To watch Alex's video of the Waikaremoana trip use the following link <https://vimeo.com/340356660>

REMINDER - NEW SEASON LICENCE

Do you have your new season licence yet?
Buy it online or at Hunting & Fishing.

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

The next OPEN DAY will be on Sunday 25 October.

The September Open Day was a great success.

Can you come and assist for this one?

Please phone Strato 3863740



Message from a happy customer...

Thanks for a wonderful experience in the rain the other day.

Our youngest child caught the biggest fish and we were able to use it as the center of the feast when we celebrated his granddads 79th birthday!

Forelle Im Speckmantel, German Bacon Wrapped Trout

Feeds two - Preparation time 45 minutes

- 1 medium sized whole trout
- Three to six rashers of streaky bacon, depending of the size of the trout
- Chopped capsicum, tomato and zucchini (a handful each)
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 1 tbsp. of olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- A bunch of parsley for decoration

Season the cleaned and dried trout inside and outside with salt and pepper.

Put one tbsp. of butter inside the trout, wrap the trout with the bacon and fix with tooth sticks, put some butter under the rashers.

Place the trout into a heatproof ceramic or cast-iron baking dish. Surround the trout with the vegetables and sprinkle them with some olive oil.

Cook the trout for ca. 20/25 minutes on 160° C.

(Trout might be ready if the dorsal fin can be removed easily)

Sides: Potato gratin or new potatoes and fresh asparagus.

Bon Appetit!

Rolf





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TRIP TO THE WHANGANUI HEADWATERS

Strato and I drove up at about 7 o'clock Friday morning 19 September. We checked into the Taumararui Holiday Camp before heading down to the adjacent River. The club reserved two cabins for a party of eight. The camp was comfortable and of good standard.

Since it was raining heavily on the way up we were wondering what the river would be like. After unpacking we went down and had a flick. We met up with Paul Baker who had driven from Turangi and managed to catch a few fish on what looked like very nice water. Zach, Caleb, Jarek, Linda and Brian showed up, later in the afternoon, and evening, completing our party. After going to the big smoke nearby for dinner we decided that we would fish the Whanganui despite the squally weather. A local guide told Strato that one of his clients caught 10 fish earlier right near town.

On Saturday we got up early and went to Pukehou near Kakahi. The water looked absolutely fine (it was a spot for the Commonwealth Champs) but the fishing was extremely tough. After a lot of walking, casting and very few fish we moved on to Mahoe Road. Things were only marginally better there. I watched Phil and Jarek land a few right near me. I could see that they were casting like machines and that this probably had something to do with their relative success. Something similar happened the Sunday morning when we fished the opposite bank of the river near the holiday camp. Phil was catching fish and I was watching him do it. Again, it seems that persistence was a very big factor. Strato commented that "Phil is turning into quite a good fisherman". High praise indeed. Go Phil!

While we were having dinner Saturday and discussing the fishing some paragliders came into the dining area and introduced themselves. Three extremely nice guys who told us all about their sport. They promised to fly over us on the Sunday and they did! It was exciting seeing them. We waved frantically but they really couldn't wave back without crashing, so they kinda circled by again. I reckon that was their fond farewell.

On Monday Strato sent us an email suggesting that we go back sometime over the summer. He said one of the guides told him the same areas that we found difficult were very productive for him earlier in the week. It got me thinking about why we had such a difficult time. Of course, I asked the experts in our party but they seemed pretty noncommittal. According to some of the things I read, weather change and barometric pressure is a big factor in fish feeding although there are plenty of sceptics. Here is a quote from G. Poveromo on weather.com.

“Fish with large bladders quickly sense when the air pressure is dropping, because there's less pressure on their bladder. And when there's less pressure squeezing their bladders, the bladders expand a bit. When their bladders expand, fish become uncomfortable. They relieve their discomfort by moving lower in the water column or by absorbing extra gas in their bladders. Because of the anatomical and physiological stresses exerted on them, they're not worried about eating. They're more concerned with trying to find a depth where they can stabilize their bladder pressure and feel good. Some species will settle to the bottom and ride out the change near structure.”

So maybe what was happening at the river was because of the weather change. Earlier in the week the fish chowed down in anticipation of the stormy weather and hunkered down with our arrival. The casting machines probably succeeded in annoying the fish enough for them to bite at their lures!

Hal

USEFUL LINKS

For a list of useful links including licences, river flow levels, weather sites and organisations please visit the club website.

<https://wellingtonflyfishers.org/links>

AN ADVENTURE AT LAKE TUTIRA

Here I was off to Taradale to visit a work client. It was unfortunate that he worked during the day, so what were my choices - maybe I could go fly fishing for these few days I was up here, and work for a few hours one or two evenings. Sounds good, for me! Life can be real challenging!!

After a morning on the Tutaekuri River and only sighting two smallish trout from one of the many access places it was off to Lake Tutira for the afternoon and maybe the next few days.

So how and where to fish Lake Tutira – the north end is now closed to access. Just by the south end carpark there is fishing, standing about knee deep and fishing with a floating line casting with a small woolly bugger; or a small glo-bug, or a cock-a-billy imitation or a hair and copper, or a Hamill's killer. The choice is numerous as you try one fly after another, at these moving fish. First you try one fly, wait for an hour, then another fly, wait for another hour, then change the fly and so the day passes by. They seem more interested in sex than taking a fly! I have no idea why these choices are made!

Where to seek these trout – why not just by the carpark? There must be other places – yes; down at Tbay and at the drop off. One of my favourite places is parking the car at the end of the track and in neoprene waders walking around to the northern end and fishing from here. You will probably have this area all to yourself, as you can almost can guarantee few people now fish here.

Remember one requirement is to wear neoprene waders as the water can get quite cold. Enjoy the walk! (About an hour).

So what happened on this recent trip?

This small cock-a-billy home-made fly caught the attention of two trout, but after they caught this fly in their mouths they waved their mouths at me, saying no, no, and no and spat this hook out. How ungrateful they were, and here was I trying to lure them away from

sex. At least this result better than five anglers I also met at the lake who never even had a hook up and they were locals!

But I did make one sad lady happy. She had an automatic Nissan which she said would not go into any gear. She must have waited about 45 minutes till us two anglers came out for lunch and then she asked for our help. Having an automatic and learning to place foot on brake pedal and then change gear when it is parked, I tried this and it worked for her. She was really grateful. So I said to my fellow angler we have done our good deed for the day let's go back to being "grumpy old men";

Also we met an Englishman angler who mentioned that "only mad dogs and Englishmen" stand waist deep in water for hours and hours. To which us two anglers together let out a dog howling call - we must be the "mad dogs" and he

was the "Englishman"; Always try to see some humour in situations!! It takes all types!

Back to fly fishing and techniques. There are several options available:

- (1) A flyline with a short leader using whatever fly falls first out of your flybox – green woolly bugger or even a large glo bug with eyes;
- (2) A spinning rod, but as I don't favour this, I shall not talk any more of these spinners;
- (3) A flyline with a float attached to a large glo bug with eyes;

Techniques:

- (1) Standing ankle deep, standing knee deep and standing waist deep in the lake with a fly rod;
- (2) Sitting on a bank with a fly rod;
- (3) Sitting on a deck chair on the bank with a fly rod;
- (4) Fishing from a float tube;
- (5) Fishing from an inflatable pontoon;

- (6) Fishing from a dingy;
- (7) Maybe try fishing while you are walking across the water, if you have this skill and talent.

So what did I really learn on this trip. Well, to be truthful absolutely nothing; but in doing so I enjoyed myself.

Maurice.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Monday 19 October 2020, 7.30pm

Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room

(Access through side door on north side of building)



Adams Irresistible Dry Fly

One of the most universal dry flies used throughout the world to imitate a series of insects. The high floatancy of the deer hair keeps them afloat for long periods but the use of other floatant products is also often used.

Particularly good on fish taking flies off the surface rather than emergers, as the fly sits high on the water.

Hook	Standard dry fly hook #14, #12
Tail	Moose body fibres
Body	Deer hair
Wings	Hen cape tippets
Hackle	Brown and grizzly feathers

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

CLUB TRIPS

Contact Strato Cotsilinis for details.

Rangitikei 16-18 October 2020 Staying at River Valley Lodge



Book now to reserve your place.
Ring Strato (hm) 386 3740



Upcoming trips:

November 2020 - Mohaka

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day – Saturday 31 October

The On-Stream Day will be on the **Wainuiomata River**, weather permitting. Onstream days are opportunities for members who are new to flyfishing to learn from an experienced angler. 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.

CLUB MEETING VENUE

Tararua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncreiff St, Mount Victoria, Wellington. For a detailed map and instructions on getting there please visit the club website <https://wellingtonflyfishers.org/club-meetings/>

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the October Issue is 23 October 2020. Early Please visit the Website for details relating to newsletter submissions <https://wellingtonflyfishers.org/newsletter/>

COMMITTEE MEETING – 6 pm, second Monday every month. For additional details please see the club website <http://wellingtonflyfishers.org.nz/committee>

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.

WEBSITE

The club website and facebook pages provide online information, contact details and useful inks. <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. 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 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021

Full member or family membership	Junior membership	Joining fee	Overseas Newsletter including postage
\$35	no fee.	\$10	\$45

Enquiries wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com

RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

As a club member you should receive a copy of the club newsletter via email if you are not receiving club emails please see the website for details. <https://wellingtonflyfishers.org/newsletter/>

CLUB MISSION

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

COMMITTEE

President	Paul Baker	970 2595
Past President	Strato Cotsilinis	386 3740
Vice President	John Gamble	027 517 5825
Secretary	Heather Millar	386 3049
Treasurer	Carmen Cotsilinis	386 3740
Newsletter Editor	Linda Brown	027 230 4770
Librarian	Warren Horne	386 3049
Website	Scott Garelli	021 325 032
Club Trips	Strato Cotsilinis	386 3740
Helpdesk	Hal Levine	027 4200 482
Fly Tying & Casting	Strato Cotsilinis	386 3740
Club Competitions	Paul Baker	970 2595
Committee	Peter Buxton	472 3456



WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB(INC).

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