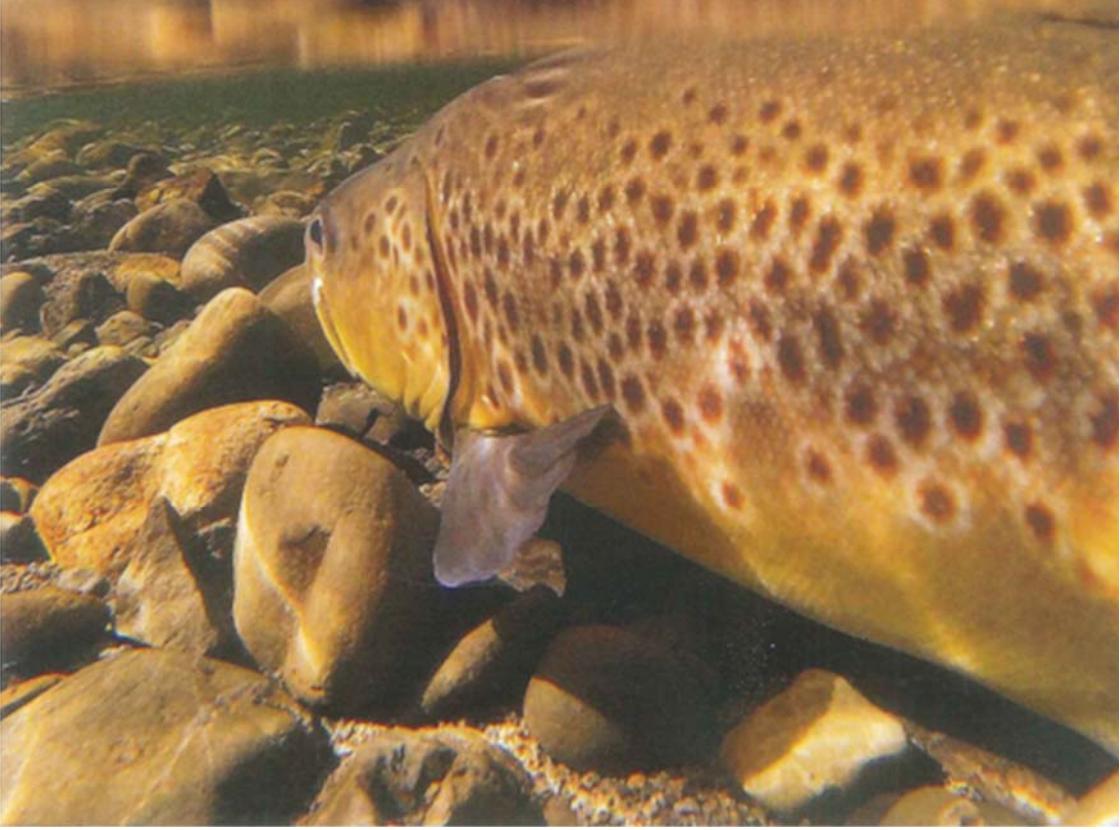


Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

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



CONTENTS

Club Meeting	2
President's Page	3
Capital Trout Centre.....	4
Heaviest Fish.....	6
Trout Recipe of the Month #3.....	7
Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing.....	8
Fly Box Raffle	9
Let us Get Into Mid-Week Fishing!!.....	9
On-Stream Day.....	13
Useful Links.....	14
Fly of the Month	14
Club Meeting Venue	14
Newsletter Contributions	14
Committee Meeting.....	14
The Helpdesk.....	14
Website.....	15
Club Membership.....	15
Fees 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021.....	15
Receive the Newsletter via Email	15
Club Mission.....	16
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 7 December, 7.30pm
Tararua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncrieff St, Mount
Victoria, Wellington

**Braedan De Lange, master fly tyer will show
videos of him tying some of his creations.**

Braedan was recently invited to join a high class fly tying
fraternity.

NOT TO BE MISSED

ALSO: New fly tying materials on display and for purchase
(payable by cash)

ALSO: END OF YEAR SOCIAL
Partners and other family members very welcome.
Supper provided

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: No club trips in December or January

Fly Tying: No fly tying sessions for December or January

On-Stream Day: Sat 19 December **Wainuiomata**
(Call Strato 386 3740 by the Wednesday prior)

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



NEW MEMBERS

Mary Fogelberg
Max Honiss

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Each December the Club likes to provide an opportunity to socialise, reflect on the fishing over spring, share plans for Christmas and generally enjoy a low-key evening over supper. Feel free to bring your partner or children along also.

The theme of the meeting this year is flies and fly tying. The hobby of fly tying can range from simply tying the most functional of fly patterns for the purpose of keeping a full fly box for modest cost, through to complex creations with zizz and a wow factor designed to impress (and sometimes even catch fish). I learnt just how extreme that can extend to when I read 'The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century' by Kirk Wallace Johnson, kindly lent to me by a friend and Club member. I recommend it as a good read.

At the meeting, Braeden de Lange will be presenting several videos of his fly patterns and tying techniques he uses to produce flies of a professional standard. We will also have some new fly-tying tools and materials on display from the importers. Its always interesting to catch up on the latest materials and trends. And of course, a good opportunity for you to get your Christmas wish list updated.

For my own fly tying I focus on results in the water, but do like to make my patterns tidy, and tend to add too many elements if anything. It means the tying takes a bit longer, but its always great to be able to tie on a pattern at the river that you have confidence in. Hook selection for flies is also important. I always tie on high quality barbless hooks in a range of styles.

As a new initiative, we invite you to bring along a few or your favourite fly patterns to show and discuss with other members. They need not be flies that you have tied yourself, but just patterns you have success with and think others might be interested in. For instance, once we get into the warmer months and the cicadas start to fly, I would be interested in what sizes and patterns people have the most success with on the Hutt and Wainuiomata Rivers. For

me it has been a bit 'hit and miss', and perhaps do not have the right choices in my fly box.

Also, this month we will draw the raffle for the fly box full of a range of excellent flies tied by Richard Benefield. I understand that we also have more flies to make up a second and third prize, so that will be fun. There are still a few more tickets available so grab an extra ticket or two before it is drawn. The winner will certainly be well stocked for the rest of this season.

In the New Year we are planning a weekend on the Ruamahanga River; firstly, on Saturday 13 February we will hold the Club's annual fishing competition, and on Sunday 14th I will run a couple of sessions on Euro (Czech) Nymphing. I will discuss this with the Committee, but we might split this between two sessions, one on the basics, and another on advanced techniques. There may also be a nominal fee, with the funds going into the Club's competition fund.

The Club auction in November was a great success. If nothing else, it was good to see some Club members leave with some real bargains, particularly in rods, reels, and a super-cheap pair of neoprene waders. Despite those bargains, the club still made \$1,200 which was a credit to all those who contributed to the evening. We must give a special thanks to Scott, who put the programme together and Pat, our Auctioneer. It is not always easy to both elicit competitive bidding and keep the evening fun, but that is what we achieved. I ended up purchasing a stack of books, one of which I was pleased to score.

Do enjoy the Christmas period, and stay safe on the water.

Paul

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

Next Open Day will be on Sunday 6th December.

FISHING SWOLLEN WATERS AND DIRTY RIVERS

Spring time brings the start of a new fishing season and regrettably, the lawns grow twice as fast as normal. The countryside is a lush green and all because of the weather which brings heavy rain interspersed with fine days.

The problem is that the heavy rain swells our rivers and dirties their waters so that when the fine days come, many anglers regard them as unfishable.

In the past, the traditional methods are to fish the very edges of the rivers where the trout seek some respite from the current flows and pick up food as it is swept towards the shallower water.

On a recent trip to the Mohaka the very first cast, no more than a metre from the edge, produced a lovely 3¹/₂lb brown, so the theory worked. Unfortunately it was the only fish I caught along the edge on that weekend.

Similarly, in the first week of the new season, we fished the Whakapapa which was again high and cloudy after recent rains, and early on the first morning fishing the edges produced two very large browns, both of which were lost at the net. Again fishing the very edge worked.

However there was no sign of the large rainbows that the Whakapapa was known for, but a change in tactics on both the Whakapapa and the Mohaka proved to be successful in increasing our catch rate.

Instead of fishing the edges, we fished the pockets in the heavy water using very heavy nymphs in conjunction with lighter flies which penetrated the surface fast currents and with continual mending, these flies were gladly accepted by the rainbows hiding below. Over two days on the Whakapapa nineteen extremely active

and hard fighting rainbows all accepted my offerings and although over half were lost in the ensuing battle, the ones that finally came to the net were very well conditioned 4 – 6 pounders.

It was a similar story on the Mohaka with a handful of feisty rainbows, all caught with heavily weighted nymphs with lighter flies on the tippet or dropper.

Next time we have fine weather after heavy rain, as long as the water is not ultra dirty, don't be put off by the swollen current but get the flies down below.

Strato

HEAVIEST FISH



Submitted by Warren Horne

6 1/4 lb Brown (Jack) caught on The Warwick River (Frog Flats)
South Island.

Truite Meunière (French)

Forelle Müllerin (German)

Trout Miller's Wife

Feeds two - Preparation time
ca 20 minutes

Millers running a water mill had usually easy access to trout. Their wives created a dish which became very popular across many European countries. In the old times, you would find it on most restaurant menus.

- 1 medium sized whole trout
- 80 gr. butter
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- Handful of bread crumbs
- Salt and pepper
- Lemon slices and parsley for decoration



Season the cleaned trout inside and seasons outside with salt and pepper. Cover the outsides of the trout with bread crumbs. Heat the fish pan and let the butter melt, then add the olive oil. Cook the trout for 12 min. each side until nicely golden and cooked through. Serve with lemon slices and finely chopped parsley; pour the hot butter over the trout before serving. Sides: Baked or new potatoes and green vegetables or salad.

Bon appetit!

Brigitte & Rolf



NEW PRODUCTS IN STORE

***Scott "Centric" Fly Rods
"Desolve" breathable waders***

PLUS

***Any purchase over \$100 goes in the draw
to win a TOYOTA HILUX SR5 CRUISER***

**Club discount 10% available on flyfishing purchases with
your membership card.**

Visit our new bigger and better store at

**8 Te Puni Street, Petone 5012
Look for the lime green building**

Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ
P O Box 33 206, Petone, Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 0064-4-589-9500 Fax: 0064-4-589-9520

FLY BOX RAFFLE

Only 15 tickets left for fly box with 168 flies, these are a bargain.

Last chance to purchase tickets as this raffle will be drawn at the December club meeting.

Plus EXTRA 2nd and 3rd prizes of flies

BUT you must have purchased a fly box raffle ticket and be at the December meeting for these extra prizes.

Many thanks to Richard Benefield for providing these great prizes

LET US GET INTO MID-WEEK FISHING!!

Here the venues selected normally have more comfort than weekend trips, as these mid-week trips are aiming for accommodation: where linen and towels are supplied; each angler has a separate bedroom; it is self-contained; there is off street parking; and there is a common area for “socialising” and preferable access to private access fishing water, at a more leisurely pace. Our stay would often be five nights, giving us eager anglers a day to get to our accommodation and after a fresh sleep on the last night, a day to come home after four full days fishing. This gives the trip back to conjure up the stories to brag about when we meet our spouses, partners, mates and friends. But prepayment, before the trip is required.



Our first trip away was to a back country river onto exclusive water, accessible only as guests of this accommodation.

Here we are off to Manganui O Te Ao. What have we got ourselves in for?

The leisurely walk along the track (proved to be up a typical steep hill and steeper down the other side), through some native bush took a mere 60 minutes: Here we came to 2km of privately accessible water. Who's we? Well, there was Maurice, Lindsay, Michael and Saint John.



As we set out on Day 1, about 7:30am our backpacks were full of a lunch, some coffee, some water, some snacks; but more importantly many, many flies and some spare reels, with a camera by one or two of us, as we also carried wading sticks.

Now a choice of gear up - heavy flies followed by a smaller weighted end fly; heavy flies with a beaded end fly and heavy flies with an unweighted end fly. Let's try each of these, for say an hour each; and then another cuppa as we discuss the results. The water was running a dark brown after rain the previous night and continuous rain over the weekend.



It wasn't till nearly two hours later that we compared notes and results as we were watching each other.

Soon we were all using 8lb nylon with small indicators, copper Johns behind a weighted fly; and our casting techniques were getting better with much practise! Enough of Day 1, other than to say most of us did not venture over the hill for this fishing spot again, during this trip.



Day 2 Down to the Ruatiti Domain and the river was showing boulders we could not see yesterday.

Yesterday, this was a brown, raging torrent, now lower water, but clearing, and much lower – like about two feet lower! Two anglers at the top and two

from the bottom of the Domain and by lunchtime we met up; but not before some trout were hooked and released. Two anglers had success - one had photo evidence and the other no proof other than some yelling for attention and a photographer!

Day 3 took us onto some privately accessible land, and after some bush bashing down a wrong path, we found a good size pool in Oliver's Reserve. Here we could see another pool further downstream over the bridge, and we all battled the wind which seemed keep to prevent any upstream casting. It was with one of these anglers downstream the roles of angler and trout were reversed - one angler became half submerged in the water and a trout came out of the water. Now three anglers had success. Another access was found at the end the road- down Syms Road, so this was our planned destination for our last day.



Day 4 This mere drive of about 11 km only took 30 minutes but the bird and natural wild like was prolific – wild goats and farmed sheep and lambs on the road, male and female pheasants, parakeets, of course the dreaded magpies, some hawks and at the end of this road we were rewarded with a king fisher. Finally, our fourth member (no names, just member number four) was successful in hooking into trout.

So what did we learn? Besides enjoying the beautiful surroundings, the mountain walk up and down a hill, the bush bashing, the dipping, and the comradeship of our group fishing overall was rather disappointing with very few trout even sighted. But this is what fishing is about and the hosts have mentioned it is often more available during January to March as most use is during the ski season - so we shall return – Craig cut some steaks for our dinner off a wild deer KellyAnn had shot earlier

Thanks to Craig and Kellyanne.

More photos on the weblink (Dropbox)

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/66fc69c9igg9pu/AAACS1ouKo85GuLIImE1XBdoa?dl=0>

Keep Safe, keep fishing Maurice

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day – Saturday 21 November

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

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>

FLY OF THE MONTH

There will be no fly tying sessions for December or January.

Practise at home

CLUB MEETING VENUE

Tararua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncrieff 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

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 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. 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 (Email only)
\$35	no fee.	\$10	\$35

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(IN C).
PO Box 9236, Marion Square, Wellington 6141, New Zealand

SPORTING LIFE - TURANGI

North Island - New Zealand

Outfitters to the Famous Tongariro River

Professional gear for professional fishermen



SPORTING LIFE : The Mall, Turangi
Tel:(07) 386-8996 Fax:(07) 386-6559
sport.life@xtra.co.nz www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz

SIMMS.