

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
August 2021



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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 2 August, 7.30pm
Taranua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncrieff St, Mount
Victoria, Wellington

WORKSHOP - ASPECTS OF TROUT FISHING TACKLE

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: 6-8 August - **Turangi**

Fly Tying: Monday 19 August

On-Stream Day: Sunday 15 August
Ruamahanga and Kourarau Dam
(Please call Strato 04 386 3740 by the
Wednesday prior)

Casting Tuition: Anyone wanting casting
tuition please contact Strato 04 386 3740



NEW MEMBERS

There are no new members this month.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Finally, the rain has arrived; and fortunately, not as extreme in the Taupo catchment as the damaging floods that hit parts of the South Island. The first half of the calendar year was the driest on record for the Taupo catchment, so little wonder the takings have very often been lean in the Taupo tributaries.

Fortunately, the Club Pond at the Capital Trout Centre fared well in the rains. It seems that the regenerating bush above the pond is holding the gravel and soil back more successfully. This is a classic illustration of the difference that natural vegetation can make to reducing sediment flows down rivers. It is just a shame that more of our regional authorities do not understand that (or do not want to). The Wellington Regional Council, for one, appears to be more interested in the revenues from forestry than rehabilitating the upper catchments of tributaries of the Hutt River.

The pond is holding stock of fish over winter, and these will be transferred between the front and back of the pond during the clean-up this weekend. I hope we get a good turn-out as the clean-up is a good time to get to know other Club members better, as well as supporting one of the Club's major activities. Strato tells me there is a 6lb trout at the pond, so there is a challenge for anyone volunteering to help with a group at the pond.

At the last meeting I was pleased to present the President's Trophy to Richard Benefield. Many will recall the magnificent box of flies he donated for a raffle to raise funds for the pond, and regular attendees will recognise him from 'behind the bar' in year's past. Richard was a committee member for many years and has also supported Club activities in a range of other ways also.

I look forward to hearing some good fishing reports from those lucky enough to get to Turangi over the next couple of weeks. I expect the rivers should be firing.

Tight lines.

Paul

LETTER TO ROLF & BRIGITTE

Your Pate is delicious, the capers and anchovy add an extra taste.

Your recipe has half the butter that my recipe has and that adds to the firmness.

Of course, 125gm of trout goes nowhere. I put the whole half of a trout and add the ingredients in proportion. So you now have plenty.

I put the pate into pottles and bang the bottoms on a board and then on my hand. This compacts the pate and rids it of air.

I now pour melted butter in to the top put the top on and into the fridge. The pate is now sealed and I have kept it for months with no problem. You must have come across potted shrimps in the UK. It is what they do.

Neil Hollebone

BIGGEST FISH

Largest trout registered for the July meeting.

A 7lb brown caught by Paul Baker in the Lonely Pool on the Tongariro. He was Euro-nymphing with 5wt rod. Caught on a flash-back pheasant tail nymph



LUNKER BUSTER

(from the archives, circa 1992)

In the early days of my competitive fishing, I received great support from Roy Cotter, from Pahiataua, who not only assisted in suggesting suitable competition venues on the Manawatu River but supplied me with a number of flies. These included a pattern which he had developed himself which he had aptly named the Lunker Buster.

The word Lunker is an Americanism denoting a large fish and while it certainly catches its share of trophies, also works well on small browns and rainbows.

Months after Roy had given me the fly (nymph), a trip to the Tukituki with the club, turned me into a firm believer. Roy had indicated to me that the fly worked at the head of the pools and that first morning on the 'Tuki' saw us full of anticipation on a typical Hawkes bay windless morning.

The first pool looked full of promise with a rapid at the head which turned right angles into the pool followed by a long slide.

The Lunker Buster for some reason seemed to be the obvious choice when I opened my fly box and casting it into the ripple where the rapid joined the pool resulted in instant success. A small rainbow was soon fighting the rod in typical 'Tuki' fashion. Not large but the fish certainly signalled the fly's potential.

The next cast produced an identical result and over the next hour more than twenty small fish fell to the fly in that same ripple.

The rest of the day was spent exploring other lies with moderate success and as dusk approached it was time to head back to the car. Passing the morning's successful pool I was tempted for one further cast into the ripple.

This time I cast upstream further into the rapid itself where the water was no more than 12 inches deep. What followed still lives in my memory. A large swirl, an immediate take and the flash of a

large rainbow was followed by a strong long run down the pool. This was no one pounder and twenty minutes later I was only then starting to gain control. Darkness was rapidly setting in and it was becoming difficult to follow the fish's movements.

However the shallower water revealed a large tail and huge dorsal which must have belonged to a fish in the 6 – 7 lb mark. I was sure the fish was mine as I started to edge it to shore and the club members who had come down to watch were providing plenty of encouragement. Unfortunately one decided I needed some assistance in seeing what I was doing in the darkness and shone a torch at the almost defeated rainbow. The response was instant and one last lunge and the rainbow headed for the depths with my fly still in its keeping. I wonder how big it really was?

The fly worked well for me on many occasions since that day either as a single fly or in a larger version used in tandem with a smaller nymph. The fly has also been very successful when tied as a larger pattern on 10's and 12's in lakes and large rivers fished as a dragonfly pattern or even swung downstream on a wet line and slowly retrieved.

I suspect my current version differs somewhat from Roy's original for which I apologise for still using his distinct name.

Strato

TURANGI CLUB TRIP JULY 9TH – 11TH

The club trip to Turangi on the 9th to 11th July turned out to be a very hit and miss affair.

Eight of us enjoyed the comforts of the Auckland Club house, and with quite a bit of water in the Tongariro from rain earlier in the week, those of us who drove up early on the Friday were full of anticipation of a good afternoon's fishing.

Rumours that a group had caught 47 fish up the Tauranga Taupo earlier in the week after the rain, fuelled our anticipation, but despite fishing a number of our favourite spots, few were successful but Jarek was starting to accumulate a good total for the weekend.

Winds from the west meant night fishing was virtually impossible and an hour fishing the Tauranga Taupo in the evening down at the mouth, provided no joy.

Saturday saw us all head off down the Tongariro to fish the Log, the Reed and the Jones and again it was Jarek who found the one spot which produced five nice fish while the rest of us were not very successful.

A quick lunch and out again in the afternoon. Four of us headed for the lower Tauranga Taupo taking the left hand pathway down to the river and fishing downstream towards the main road bridge. Lots of snags accounted for many flies but again we were fishless and as we neared the main road bridge we decided to call it a day.

Ruben however had gone back to get his car and before returning to the Lodge decided to fish under the Tauranga Taupo bridge which can now be accessed from the north side. An angler was already there and had been very successful landing thirty fish for the day. Where were these fish the night before?

His story was backed up by the fact that Rueben managed to hook five fish in short succession, indicating there was an extensive pool of fish just above the bridge. Perhaps had we continued fishing downstream we may also have been successful.

The evening meal was one of the highlights of the trip with Bob (Max's granddad) supplying steak from the local supermarket with Phil supplying some lovely cold smoked trout from his new smoker and Strato smoking a trout in his portable hot smoker out in the driveway.

A good assortment of liquid refreshments and there was no fishing that night.

The following morning Susie and Jarek tried another of Jarek's favourite spots with Jarek again being successful and Susie also hooking into a nice fish. Ruben tried the TT bridge again but the fish had moved on.

Strato and Max fished the lower Tongariro pools without success but later in the morning tried the top end of the Log. Five fish were hooked in quick succession, one of which was Max's lovely 5 pounder. His personal best to date.

Good company made it a successful trip but higher catch rates will have to wait until the next Turangi trip in August.



FLY OF THE MONTH

Monday 19 August, 7.30pm - Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

LUNKER BUSTER

Hook	Kamisan B 175 #12 or #14
Tail	Pheasant tail fibres
Abdomen	Black tying thread
Rib	Copper wire
Thorax	Dubbed hare's fur with plenty of guard fibres
Wing case	Pheasant tail fibres or Christmas tinsel for flash back



If anyone has suggestions for fly patterns they would like to see tied at the flytying meetings please let Strato know (386 3740)



TROPHY PRESENTATION

Richard Benefield being presented with the Presidents Trophy for Senior Angler of the Year at the July club meeting.

MID-WEEK FLY FISHING TRIPS

These seek a bit more comfort, relaxed fishing and often individual rooms. Inquiries Maurice Broome, a senior Wellington Fly Fishers Club member maurice.fishing@xtra.co.nz or tel 04 2989663.

Month	Dates	Venue
August	Mon 23 to Fri 27 Aug. Patangata Hastings Club rooms.	Tukituki River
September	Sun 19 to Fri 24 Sept	Taupo River mouths 
October	Mon 11 to Fri 14 Oct	Rangitikei River
November	Sun 21 to Fri 26 Nov	Upper Whanganui

If you would like to attend one of Maurice's trips, please contact him ASAP because accommodation is booked in advance.

REMINDER - SUBS ARE DUE.

The subs have remained at \$35.00 for the year. Club bank account is 06-0582-0030903-00.

Please download a form from the website.

https://wellingtonflyfishers.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/wffc_membership_form-2.pdf

Smoked Trout on Potato Fritters with a Herb Dressing

This is a great brunch or lunch, but we also eat it as a light dinner with a radicchio and cos lettuce salad (serves two).

Ingredients:

- 200 g fillets of smoked rainbow or brown trout
- Ca. 350 potatoes (agria is good)
- 1 heaped tablespoon of oats
- 1 small egg (beaten)
- Salt and black pepper
- 2 soft boiled or poached eggs
- Small handful of fresh greens (rocket, baby spinach)
- 1 small lemon



For the herb dressing:

100g sour cream, handful of chopped dill, chives and fennel fonds, 1 tbsp good olive oil, tbsp lemon juice, sea salt

Preparation:

For the herb dressing, combine all ingredients in a bowl and put aside. Grate the potatoes into a bowl and squeeze with your hands to get moisture out of the potatoes. Drain well to get as dry as possible. Add oats, the egg and a little salt and mix well with your hands. Heat a tablespoon of oil in a frying pan over medium heat and ladle fritter sized portions into the pan. Flatten, fry and flip until crisp and golden. Keep warm until all fritters are ready to be served. Serve fritters topped with trout, herb dressing, fresh greens, boiled egg and slices of lemon.

Enjoy!

Rolf & Brigitte



Hunting & Fishing

N E W Z E A L A N D

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Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day – Sunday 15 August

The July On-Stream Day will be on the Hutt River. 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>

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>

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 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022

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, Marlon Square, Wellington 6141, New Zealand

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