

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
February 2022



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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 Feb , 7.30pm

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

Holiday Fishing by Club Members What's Working, Where To Go

Even though this is the observance of Waitangi Day, a meeting
will be held – subject to covid restrictions at the time.

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: 11-13 February - **Rangitikei**

Fly Tying: Monday 21 February

On-Stream Day:

Saturday 19 February , **Hutt River**

(Please call Strato 04 386 3740 by the Wednesday
prior)

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



NEW MEMBERS

Rod and Angus Lawson

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I'm afraid my house and section are not up to scratch! If I spent a proper amount of time fishing the paint should be peeling off and the lawns ankle high. Even worse, I have been working on a new building project rather than spending the run of great weather on the local rivers. I am obviously hoping for some rewards from this sacrifice, but the yearn to be on the river in the conditions still aches.

My trip to the Murchison area in early December was very rewarding and created great memories, and some time fishing around Turangi over the Christmas break was reasonably successful, so I cannot really complain.

If you can take time from fishing it would be good if you can go through your fishing gear and sort out items that you can submit for the auction in March. These can be brought along to the Club meeting in February. Yes, the Club meeting will still be held on 7 Feb under Covid-19 'Red Light' rules. Please understand however, you will need to provide evidence of double vaccination on arrival and wear a suitable mask during the meeting.

We don't have a guest speaker given the uncertainty of how many members might turn up, but Strato will lead a discussion on summer fishing techniques in local (and maybe not so local) fishing waters. Hint: focus on the riffles where there is cover and higher oxygen levels. The fish also feed more in the early mornings and late evenings when water temperatures are cooler.

Please handle any fish you catch in these warm conditions carefully.

Cheers
Paul

FLY BOX & FLIES RAFFLE #1 Reminder

As advised in December's Tight Lines, we are selling tickets for Fly Box #1 as a fund raiser for the Capital Trout Centre.

Tickets \$5 each.

Get your tickets at the February meeting.

NEVILLE RUSH R.I.P.

It was with extreme sadness that we learned that Neville had passed away on the 16th January 2022.



Neville joined the club in June 1995. Battling with illnesses, he rarely missed a club night.

He was an integral part of the operation of the Capital Trout Centre, completing much of the maintenance and the regular feeding of the fish.

Hundreds of children would have benefitted from his assistance on Open Days and will have lasting memories of their successes.

Despite his illnesses, there was never a word of complaint and his positive attitude was a lesson to us all.

As one club member commented when hearing the news, 'he was a really nice bloke'.

Neville will be sadly missed and the club sends condolences to Elaine and the family.

R.I.P.

REVIEW OF DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting, in addition to being our year end social, was also an opportunity to hear a presentation from John Ashby from the Rescue Coordination Centre.

John gave an excellent visual review on how the Centre works and in particular the benefits of carrying personal locator beacons when enjoying the outdoors.

This is particularly the case for those of us who, on some occasions, go fishing by ourselves and should an accident occur would have great difficulty in contacting rescue services.

The club uses one for its on stream days and club trips and at a cost of only \$445.00 for the current model, this is a good investment.

Strato

IT'S CICADA TIME

Although the cicadas don't appear to have been as loud this year, a recent trip to the Wainuiomata River confirmed how expectant trout were for this food item which generally appears at this time of the year.

Starting off with a dry fly - nymph combination two trout attacked the cicada dry fly but failed to hook up. I then replaced the nymphs with the cicada on the point and over the next two and a half hours, ten fish came to the fly.

Three had a good look and then turned away while a further three (including the two at the beginning) had a go but didn't hook up. The remaining four all came to the net showing good fighting qualities in excellent condition in the 2lb – 3lb range.

Wainui was as usual, quite windy and there were very few cicadas singing but the trout have obviously got this food item dialled in for this time of the year.

Well worth another try.

CLUB AUCTION

We will be holding the club auction at the March meeting.

This is the major fund raiser for club funds, so PLEASE look through your fly fishing equipment and anything that you no longer need but think it could be good to auction, put it aside. Items can either be donated to the club for auction or sold on your behalf with a 10% commission kept by the club. Please fill out the form below and email it to Scott so that a catalogue can be prepared of items. This needs to be received by 14th February.



Wellington Flyfishers Club (Inc)

ANNUAL AUCTION

Monday 7th March 2022

Auction Entry Form

Viewing from 6.30pm. Bidding begins at 7.30pm

*NOTE: Auction will be limited to 100 items.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____

Description of item (s)	Reserve \$ (if any)	Donated to club (tick)	Lot # (Office use only)

- Notes:
- Please enter a brief description of the items for auction, using one line per lot submitted.
 - Bring your completed form to the October meeting, or give it to a committee member, or post it to:
 Wellington Flyfishers Club
 PO Box 9236
 Wellington
 New Zealand
 - If you have any inquiries phone Scott Garelli (021 325 032) or Strato (04 386 3740)
 - You may enter a reserve for any item if you wish. A commission for the club of 10% will be deducted from the amount received even if the item is sold at reserve price.
 - Please indicate if any of your items are donations to the club.
 - Goods may be delivered to Scott Garelli a few days before or brought to the club rooms by 6.15pm on auction night.
 - NO MAGAZINES PLEASE

KOURARAU DAM

Back in the 1980's, very few anglers were fishing the Kourarau Dam. This was until we discovered good quantities of rainbows both small and large up to 9lb.

This became a float tubing exercise for a number of us and during midsummer, fishing between 10 o'clock and midnight, became one of our highlights of the year.

A small stream which runs into the lake was providing good spawning, but in the late 1990's this stream became less and less acceptable as a spawning area and by the turn of the century the fishery had virtually collapsed.

In more recent years, a number of groups have put some time and effort in trying to restore the stream and Fish & Game provided some rainbow stocks. This has been successful and with the help of local farm owners, access has been provided.

The southern end of the lake however has gradually silted up and float tubing has become more restricted.

The illegal introduction of Tench has also discoloured the water and while the Perch that were previously abundant and provided the main food source for the trout seemed to have diminished, it is still worthwhile.

The heat of the summer has increased the temperature of the lake considerably and the fish now appear to be congregated either in the very deep water at the northern end of the lake or around the stream mouth at the southern end.

Two of us fishing the stream mouth over Christmas one morning, hooked into 20 fish all between 1lb and 2lb which would appear to indicate that once again the stream is providing good spawning opportunities.

Just the place to go on a calm Wairarapa morning.



FLY OF THE MONTH

Monday 21 February, 7.30pm - Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

Cicada

To see a large trout emerge from the depths of a big deep pool, in fast water and take a large dry fly off the surface is one of the greatest joys of summer fishing.



The cicada and other terrestrial patterns are designed to do just that. Extra buoyancy can be achieved with foam.

Hook	TMC 5212 size 6 - 10
Thread	Black 6/0 or 3/0
Body	Spun deer hair
Wing	Flared deer hair or synthetic wing material
Thorax	Spun deer hair
Legs	Pheasant tail

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

UPCOMING CLUB TRIPS

February 11th/13th	Rangitikei
March 11th/13th	Tukituki
April 16th/17th	Manawatu
May date TBD	Manganui o te Ao

To book a place please contact Strato (04) 386 3740

~ Trout Asian Style ~

We recently created this recipe because we love to experiment with different kinds of taste. We used our first trout caught at the Ruamahanga River near Martinborough on 1st January 2022.

- 1 middle sized trout
- Juice of one lime
- 1 tbsp grated ginger
- 3 kaffir lime leaves
- 1 tbsp fish sauce
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 2 tbsp of sesame oil
- 1 finely chopped deseeded red chilli
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh coriander



Start the BBQ on medium temperature or heat oven to 175 degrees.

Mix lime juice, ginger, chilli, fish sauce, soy sauce, brown sugar, sesame oil into a sauce. Place lime leaves into the belly of the trout.

Prepare a double layer of aluminium foil, brush the trout from all sides with the marinade and put fish into the foil and add the rest of the marinade. Close the foil thoroughly.

Put the trout-in-foil on the pre-heated BBQ or into oven and simmer it for ca 25 minutes. Unpack and sprinkle the coriander leaves onto the cooked trout.

Sides: Jasmine rice and baby carrots (it is nice to place the carrots alongside the fish and cook them inside the foil package). If you feel up to it, serve with an Asian slaw.

Bon appetite!
Rolf & Brigitte

THE FIRST MID-WEEK FLY FISHING TRIP 2022.

There was a trip planned to fish the Manganui O Te Ao River during January 2022. Originally a five-bedroom house was booked, but with so little interest another location, being a two-bedroom cottage was booked for the four nights. This location allowed sole access over some of this river see photos below...

“Milk and Honey” Cottage, the river and the fish... whoops; the fish were released before photos



...

After arriving in this hot weather and unpacking we soon drove down to the river for a recon. Yes, there was a good drop off and further upstream some good rapids with long runs; even further upstream was other runs, but these looked a bit shallow. After a few trial casts here that first evening, we spent the next day working our way covering all this water. But what the heck, not even a touch!

The next day took us on what we could call a day of walking. Along the road and through the unlocked gate were the instruction: first trip down to the river was a locked gate. Whoops, wrong gate. Still, we walked down to a good swimming hole at the river. Back up the car, an hour later. Then fate helped us out as the farmer/host just turned up and drew a map in the dirt, so through the “unlocked” gate we drove. Parking at the top of the hill we could see the road track going for a while but not confident the RAV4 could have traction on the dirt road we parked here at the top of a hill. A mere one hour later we were at what has been called the “Peninsular” on the Manganui O te ao River. Scouting around did not help till we fished the drop-offs. Maurice took

a while to land two from this location and hook into two more at the next drop-off. Further upstream the river was broken water and was shallow, full of the green stuff we hate to cast into, called weed. By 1pm we were walking the one hour hike back to the car.

Our third day was to try the “cutting” only to find about a few minutes driving through the paddocks this was the same track as yesterday. Plan B was going to the Domain- well very little flow at the bottom and weed everywhere. By now, about 9:30am the campers had decided the large pool by the picnic area was swimming and dive-bombing time. Jumping from the cliff on the far side of the river these campers may have disturbed the water for trout. Back home, but “let’s try our first place, again?” It took a while, but Maurice hooked and landed a smallish trout; then soon we were considering back to the accommodation for watermelon, a cracker and some cool ones! How about one last try, says Grant. Maurice rested the water by lying in the shade after finding a comfortable seat and almost small bed. After what may have been a snooze he wakes up, looks towards Grant; and behold Grant’s rod is bent and yes, he has hooked one trout down this very “fishy” run. They HAD to be there!!!

Back to the accommodation to freshen up and cool down as most days reached 31C by about 2pm and did not cool down till later in the evening.

Thursday we both left to go home; Grant leaving early with Maurice packing up about 7am, and then the rain. It took 30 minutes to reach Raetihi and by now it was teeming down. We will take some credit for our careful and knowledgeable planning of when to leave.

Yes, we will be back and may try for a May trip as recent trips in October, November and now January have not given us anglers the success rate we would expect from this fishery.

It is real, that with these mid-week trips early bookings are needed to confirm accommodation with the host or they may be cancelled. Look for the programme in this magazine and mark the dates. Better still contact Maurice and indicate your interest.

maurice.fishing@xtra.co.nz

See the attached link for a quick YouTube of our fishing location.
https://youtu.be/uLeXxwX4O_g

PLANNED MID-WEEK TRIPS

These are usually a higher standard accommodation, with bedding and towels supplied on occasions. Maurice tries to give each angler a separate bedroom, in the accommodation booked.

Month	Trip details
Feb/Mar 2022	Rangitikei - FULLY BOOKED Mohaka - FULLY BOOKED
April 2022	Manawatu River - Sunday 3 April to Thursday 7 April
May 2022	Rangitikei - Monday 9 May to Friday 13 May
June 2022	Tukituki - Sunday 12 June to Friday 17 June
July 2022	Waimarino and Tauranga Taupo River mouths about Sunday 24 July to Friday 29 July
August	Tukituki and Waipawa Rivers and Lake Tutira - Monday 22 August to Friday 26 August
September	Tongariro - Sunday 18 September to Friday 23 September
October	Rangitikei - Monday 10 October to Friday 14 October

For more detailed information on accommodation, likely fishing spots etc or if you would like to be on the mailing list, please contact Maurice.

Email: maurice-fishing@xtra.co.nz

Tel: Paraparaumu 04 298 9663 (not after 8pm, please).



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Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ
8 Te Puni Street, Petone.

P O Box 33 206, Petone, Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day – Saturday 19 February

The February 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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