

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
March 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 March , 7.30pm

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

CLUB AUCTION

Viewing from 7pm
Auction will start at 7.30pm

Please note.

All purchases must be paid for on the night.
We have not been able to organise an eftpos machine this year
so payment will need to be made in cash or by internet banking.

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: 18-20 March - **Tukituki**

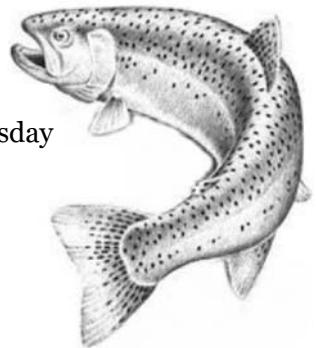
Fly Tying: Monday 21 March

On-Stream Day:

Saturday 26 March , **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

Rob Parsons

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This month the lawns are ankle high, but I've still only been out fishing on a couple of days! I'm told also that summer is over. The fishing season hasn't ended though and there is still time to get out and enjoy some excellent dry fly fishing in the still warm conditions. Even though nymph fishing is usually more productive, it is much more satisfying to spot a trout feeding and successfully tempting it with a dry fly, particularly one that you may have tied yourself.

Hopefully, the spike we are now experiencing in Covid-19 cases will soon pass and we see the end of lockdown's, travel restrictions and the economic damage this has been doing to many businesses. It has been a difficult time for many. It has also been disruptive for organising Club activities. Fortunately, so far as I am aware, we haven't had any Club members seriously ill from Covid-19.

The Committee has decided to go ahead with the club auction, which has been put back from November. It is usually fun evening, even if you are not particularly inclined to add to the pile of unused fishing gear or books that you already own. There are usually good bargains to be had with flies tied by members, and I understand there are some nicely framed Tichbourne reproductions up for auction at a very reasonable reserve.

Managing the Capital Trout Centre has been quite a challenge this past summer, with fish numbers not being quite what we expected, through shag activity or other reasons we haven't been able to ascertain. A small number of fishing sessions have been cancelled due to Covid concerns and at other times the fish have been unresponsive to the offerings of our anglers. Such is fishing!

We have some great trips planned, so do join in and get to know other Club members a bit better.

Tight lines

Paul

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

Open Day - Sunday 6th March

We received a shipment of fish on Friday 18th February so we will be having an Open Day on Sunday 6th March.



Registration tickets/Licences are available from Hunting & Fishing, 8 Te Puni Street, Petone and from Capital Fishing, Ghuznee Street, Wellington.

This is a fun activity for children aged from two to eleven.

Starting at 9 am and finishing at 3.30pm.

Anyone who can assist on the day, please phone Strato 386 3740 and offer your services.

(Masks will be worn by adults).

WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

Suzi Lang has kindly offered to manage the club Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/WellingtonFlyfishersClub>

The Facebook page provides a place where members can share their photos and stories. If you are planning a trip and need a fishing buddy the Facebook page could be a good place to find one.

Please make some time to go and take a look at the latest content. Some club activities will be advertised on the page.

FLY BOX & FLIES RAFFLE

We are selling tickets for Fly Box #1
(172 beautifully tied flies and fly box)
as a fund raiser for the Capital Trout Centre.



Tickets are only \$5 each.

Get your tickets at the March meeting.

WFFC CLUB TRIP TO THE RANGITIKEI RIVER

The threat of impending rainstorms caused the postponement of the December 2021 WFFC trip to the Rangitikei River.

Fast forward to February 2022 and the threat of impending rainstorms again looked like it might scuttle our plans. However, the trip leader Strato made the call that ‘bugger it we’re going fishing’. Woo-hoo - the trip was on!

On the Friday afternoon, the various club members made their way to the scenic location of River Valley Lodge. The river looked a treat and the cacophony of cicadas suggested some good fishing ahead. New club member Rod enticed a fish to munch on a cicada pattern on his second cast but alas it escaped back to the depths. The group fished the area upstream of the lodge hooking a mixture of small browns and rainbows. A heavy shower sent the team scuttling back to the lodge for shelter. Unfortunately, the angler holding the room key was furthest upstream and arrived back to a few sideways glances.

Rain persisted into the evening, and we crossed our fingers that the river would be stay down.

In the morning we emerged from our cabin and trotted down to the river with trepidation. We were pleasantly surprised that the river had only come up a touch and the colour was very fishy. After breakfast a couple of the anglers headed down to the river for a quick flick while the others got ready.

What the heck? In the space of an hour the river had risen half a meter or more and was raging over the rocks.



The plan had always been to head upstream to with more fishable water than at the lodge. However, it was now to search for clearer water. Driving over the bridge at Mangaohane we stopped and surveyed the water. It was better than at the lodge but still with some brown colouring. We decided to head up to Springvale Bridge and come back to Mangaohane – the theory being that, assuming no more rain, that this area might clear and be more fishable in the afternoon.

The water at Springvale was a touch clearer so we rigged up and headed to the river. After a few minutes Phil hooked and dropped a small rainbow on the wet line. The remainder of the group nymphed upstream searching for the elusive fish.



Not long after Phil hooked into a solid fish and managed to land a lovely 5 lb brown jack. Strato arrived to inspect and take some photos for the album. After a few minutes of resting in the slack water it sped off to the depths to contemplate what had just happened.

Having had a fairly ‘quiet’ trip to the Whanganui/Whakapapa in November, Phil was pretty stoked to land a very nice fish and a brown at that.

That was only the beginning....

Ten minutes later Phil hooked into a ‘stonking great fish’ that headed downstream at pace and had Phil into the backing. After a couple of great leaps the fish was gone – busted off! The jubilation from just minutes before changed to what might have been. It must have been close to ten pounds Phil thought.

[Editor: By later that evening it was closer to 20 pounds apparently!]

Phil tied on another olive woolly bugger and then proceeded to land another 5 lb brown – this time a hen. And then not long after Phil hooked a very solid 6 lb brown jack. Sixteen pounds of brown fish landed and released for the morning was Phil's fishing highlight for some time.



After lunching at the bridge, we headed back down to Mangaohane to show the newer club members some of the fishing opportunities there. A mix of mostly small rainbows, but the occasional brown, trout were landed.



Dinner back at the lodge restaurant was the usual fantastic farm style cooked meal with a lovely brownie dessert. The volume in the restaurant increased as the large group of young farmers from up country and a local stag do started to get into full swing. The WWFC group departed to the outdoors to survey the river while Joey and Michael squared off on the outdoor chess set.



On the Sunday morning we emerged to inspect the river. Overnight rain had brought the river up further and it had turned a chocolate colour. Reports from the whanau at home were that Wellington had had heavy rain which was heading our way. We made the call to abandon any fishing for the day and head home.



A great trip, with a great bunch of folk and some excellent food. Recommended to all club members.

Phil Haslam

FLY OF THE MONTH

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

Green (Olive) Woolly Bugger



The Woolly Bugger has become a very well performing lure for all rivers and lakes.

Can be used with or without a bead (tungsten or otherwise). Depends on the depth of the water and what you are trying to imitate. A small green woolly bugger fished slowly in the lake margins without a heavy bead is excellent as a damsel nymph imitation.

Hook	4 – 12 long shank
Lead Wire	(optional)
Tail	Black Marabou fibres
Body	Green or olive chenille
Ribbing	Round tinsel or wire
Hackle	Soft olive or grizzle hackle fibres

Tying Instructions

- Add bead (gold or black) with small hole first
- Tie thread on hook and then take thread to bend of hook
- Wind on lead wire if you are using this option and cover the thread
- Tail – use end of marabou feather after you have pinched off the ends. (Don't cut with scissors). If using the lower part of the marabou feather strip it off the stem and tie a bunch at the tail.

- Ribbing – tie in a length of round gold tinsel and let it hang
- Tie tip of hackle feather in front of tail and let hang
- Strip 5mm of chenille off core and tie onto hook in front of tail
- Wrap chenille from tail to behind bead. If your chenille is thin you may need to wrap two or three depths of chenille
- Wrap hackle feather in 5 mil wraps to head and tie off behind bead
- Wrap gold tinsel to head in opposite direction to hackle. Wiggle it as you wrap which will ensure you don't trap too many hackle feathers. Tie off behind head.

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

Tukituki - March 18th/20th

Staying at the Hastings Club Lodge at Patangata



April 16th/17th	Manawatu
May 13th/15th	<p>Manganui o te Ao (Camping at Ruatiti Domain)</p> 

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

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).



Hunting & Fishing

N E W Z E A L A N D

Summer is here

Come and see our full range of
Sims clothing and Sims boots

Primal rod, reel & line sets
Suitable for Czech Nymphing
Now available for \$399.99

Club discount 10% available on
flyfishing purchases
(excluding specials)
with your membership card

The Flyfishing Experts

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 26 March

The March 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
Facebook Editor	Suzy Lang	
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