

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

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



CONTENTS

CLUB MEETING	2
PRESIDENT'S PAGE.....	3
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	5
THE CLUB'S ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION.....	5
CLUB AUCTION REVIEW.....	6
CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE OPEN DAY 6th March 2022.....	6
WFF FACEBOOK PAGE.....	7
FLY BOX & FLIES RAFFLE	7
CLUB TRIP TO TUKITUKI, HAWKES BAY 18TH - 20TH MARCH	8
THE HUTT AIN'T SO BAD REALLY.....	9
CLUB ANNUAL FISHING COMPETITION.....	10
FLY OF THE MONTH	11
UPCOMING CLUB TRIPS	12
A STORY ABOUT THREE ANGLERS	12
MID-WEEK TRIP - Calendar.....	16
HUTT VALLEY HUNTING & FISHING.....	17
ON-STREAM DAY.....	18
USEFUL LINKS.....	18
CLUB MEETING VENUE	18
NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS	18
COMMITTEE MEETING	18
HELPDESK.....	19
WEBSITE	19
CLUB MEMBERSHIP	19
FEEES 1 APRIL 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022.....	19
RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL.....	20
CLUB MISSION.....	20
COMMITTEE.....	20

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 4 April , 7.30pm

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

South Island Fishing Experience

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Champs: Saturday 9th April (see article in magazine)

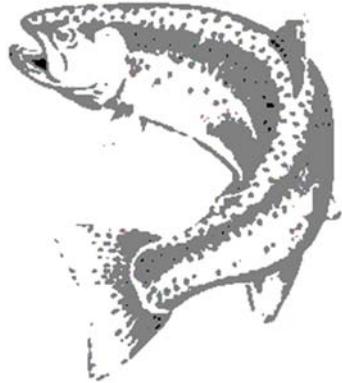
Club Trip: 22-24 April - **Manawatu**

Fly Tying: Monday 18 April

On-Stream Day:

Saturday 30 April , **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

Richard and Sally Mann

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I finally got out for some fishing, and in the lower South Island, but only for a few short spells as I was travelling in support of the Gearshop Adventure Racing team, competing in the tenth GODZone Adventure race.

Registration was at Wanaka. I found the Clutha River at Albert Town quite different to my few previous visits there, with Lake Wanaka low and the river likewise. It was possible to wade the shallower sections and spot feeding fish. A young fellow, obviously local, entered the river just 40 meters above where I was fishing, to water that I had been working up towards. I chided him politely, suggesting that he was spoiling one of my rare opportunities to fish the Clutha. He took it in good grace and gave me more space. He was certainly a very good fisherman. I landed six rainbows around 3lb, so wasn't overly unhappy.

After a productive start there, we travelled with the team to the start of the adventure race at Jackson Bay, South Westland. The first transitions were up the Jackson River Road and over into the Cascade River catchment. The Jackson River looked very inviting, but I wasn't to get an opportunity to fish there or get close to the Cascade River.

My next opportunity was a couple of hours at Glenorchy. Only one fish from Lake Wakatipu where the Rees River flows in, but that was a first for me in that lake. When I spotted the Gearshop AR team paddling their way across the lake in their pack-rafts it was time to race back and help feed them and transition to their mountain bikes for the next leg of their journey. Next stop was of Mount Nicholas Road, near the Mavora Lakes. As much as I would have liked to fish there, our journey was such that we only just arrived two minutes before the team, which had biked the more direct route down the western side of Lake Wakatipu. Once the team headed off into the Eyre Mountains at 3:00 am, we caught some sleep, packed up and headed to Te Anau to freshen up. The rivers were all very low, but the Upukerora River just north of Te Anau still produced three nice rainbows for a couple of hours fishing. Next stop was the top reaches of the Mataura River, west of Garston. Again, the river was very low and clear. There were only a few pools I reached over the two hours I had spare that had sufficient depth and cover for trout. I couldn't entice the first fish, and the second I spooked as I tried to

ascertain if it was a log on the bottom or large trout. The third I caught fishing into some deep water under a fast riffle flowing from the rapid above. The sort of water that you can never spot fish in any case. That fish was a solid 5lb in superb condition and capped off the trip for me. I got back to the transition area shortly after the AR team had arrived from spending over 36 hours trekking through the Eyre Mountains. They were already being well cared for, and I indicated to them that they could see where my priorities lay! Our next stop was Lake Onslow, while the AR team headed onto the Nevis Road to bike through the Nevis Valley, down to Miller Flat then up to Lake Onslow, visiting check points along the way.

Unfortunately, the transition area at Onslow was well above the lake and not a convenient spot for a cast. Mark that one for another day. After Onslow we drove via a 4WD track to the upper Taieri River. The slow flow of the Taieri through the meandering loops of the scroll plain was fascinating to see. Again, no fishing at that stop, nor the next stop at Outram where the teams transitioned from biking down the Taieri Gorge, including along the railway track, to commence a paddle in kayaks to the mouth of the Taieri River.

We must have done something right as the Gearshop AR team came in 11th place and was one of only 14 teams to compete the long and in places gruelling race. Well done to them.

So not a classic fishing trip, but rewarding none-the-less, and an opportunity to see parts of the country I have never visited before. Strato is also heading down that way soon for a few days fishing, so he will return with some stories and photos to share with us at the next meeting.

Give some thought also to fishing in the Club competition coming up. It's always a friendly event.

Tight lines

Paul

Wellington Flyfishers Club Inc

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that Wellington Flyfishers Club Inc will hold its AGM at its normal club meeting on Monday 2nd May 2022 at 7.30pm at the Tararua Tramping Club hall.

Full agenda and associated papers will be published in the May magazine.

Reminder

**THE CLUB'S ANNUAL
PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

will be held at the AGM on 2nd may.

- You must have taken the photos
- Limited to 2 photos per person
- Photos must have a fly fishing theme or scene
- No specific size or orientation required



CLUB AUCTION REVIEW

Despite the restrictions of covid-19 there was a very good turnout of club members and friends for the Club's annual auction.

The generous donation of goods by club members and from Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing and the great performance of auctioneer Pat McShane resulted in an excellent return for the club, which was above expectations.

The Club still has a number of items available for sale which will be advertised over the coming weeks.

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE OPEN DAY 6th March 2022

Fine weather and some excellent conditioned rainbows supplied by the Turangi Hatchery proved a great success for the 50 children who attended the Open Day.

Members of the Wellington Flyfishers Club assisted all the children to catch very feisty rainbows ranging from 1lb to 4lb, in what many parents described as being a real highlight for their children.

Reminder

**Wainuiomata River season ends on
30th April.**

Check Fish & Game regulations for other rivers before you plan your trips.

WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

Susanne Lang has taken on the position of updating the club's facebook page. Have a look.

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

FLY BOX & FLIES RAFFLE

We have been advised by Richard Benefield that the four boxes of flies that he generously donated to be raffled as a fund raiser for the Capital trout Centre, were intended to be two raffles with a first and second prize drawn.

Therefore the current raffle #1 means you have the chance to win Fly Box #1 (172 flies and fly box) and Fly Box # 1.2 (115 flies and fly box).

Tickets are only \$5 each.

Get your tickets at the April meeting.



CLUB TRIP TO TUKITUKI, HAWKES BAY 18TH - 20TH MARCH

Ten club members made our annual trip to the Hastings Club's Patangata fishing lodge. Reports that the river had been fishing hard in recent weeks were probably due to the warmer weather rather than any lack of the usual good numbers of rainbows.

Strato and Jarek left early on Friday morning for a stop on the way at the Makuri Gorge. The trip from the road down to the river and indeed along the river is somewhat arduous and tests one's physical abilities. This however did not distract from the beauty of the gorge with its waterfalls and cascades (see photos). Unfortunately only one fish was caught and the next stop was a brief visit to a couple of pools on the Manawatu. These produced twelve feisty rainbows up to 3lb with Strato landing seven on the nymph and Jarek five on the downstream Woolly Bugger.

Arriving at the Lodge, Brian had already picked up a couple of fish in the runs above the bridge and Strato and Jarek both added one each to the tally.

The weather was beautifully fine the following morning and this proved the case throughout the weekend.

Unfortunately the information received prior to the trip that the fishing was hard proved to be correct with only Jarek, Phil and Zac producing any significant numbers.

One of the highlights of the trip was the evening meal in the Patangata Tavern, which was enjoyed by all. The evening was also notable for a group of approximately 30 young women celebrating a hen's party for the coming nuptials of one of their group.

Sunday again saw us back on the river early and although plenty of fish were sighted, most of the ones hooked were generally lost as a result of spectacular aerial displays. This was particularly the case with Strato who in one run, fishing downstream using olive Woolly Buggers, hooked into 7 excellent rainbows estimated to be between

4lb and 7lb clearly evident from their magnificent leaps and runs but unfortunately resulting in only two coming to shore.

In all the group landed approximately 30 fish for the weekend but the trip will be remembered more for the fish lost rather than the fish that came to the net.

The Hasting Club's Patangata Lodge is a great place to stay and this added to the enjoyment of the whole group.

THE HUTT AIN'T SO BAD REALLY.

(this should have gone in last months newsletter)

Hi Strato,

Wasn't sure who to send this to but Scott suggested you. A nomination for heaviest fish for the month. Failing that hopefully a picture to get a bit of interest for people to get out on the Hutt.

There are some great fish in there at the moment and willing to take the dry fly as well now that we have had some rain. This one was just hours before the cyclone hit us and came up for a cicada pattern as the river was starting to rise.



Net scales had it at 7.5 pounds.
Hope all is well at your end

Kind regards,
Braedan de Lange.

CLUB ANNUAL FISHING COMPETITION

The annual competition for the Club's fishing trophy is to be held on the Ruamahanga River on Saturday 9 April. This has always been a friendly affair and closely contested by a few keen anglers. The competition is not restricted to experienced anglers, and less confident anglers are welcome to join. If we get enough competitors, we will run a handicap competition in addition to the Club Cup.

Anglers are paired together and take turns to fish. Where possible we pair the less experienced anglers with the experienced anglers. This way they can pick up on a few ideas from the experienced anglers.

There are some good numbers of fish in the Ruamahanga, and we try to allow every angler to fish fresh water. That will depend on the number of competitors and conditions on the day.

Full competition details will be sent to competitors before the competition. Note: the competition rules are to fly fish, and to meet the Fish & Game regulations only, i.e. competitors do not have to conform to Sports Fly Fishing NZ rules. Competitors will control for each other.

We will meet up just upstream on the true right of the River close to Gladstone Bridge at 8:00 a.m. and allocate the pairs and beats from there

If you are interested, or want more details, please contact Paul by email: pbakerema@gmail.com. Please also include your mobile phone number as it can sometimes be necessary to give late notice of cancellation if the river looks like being in flood on the day.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Monday 18 April, 7.30pm - Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

Red Setter

With winter fishing fast approaching and with downstream lure fishing showing a resurgence, especially in the Turangi/Taupo area, the Red Setter is a “must have” fly.



This is another easy to tie essential pattern.

Created in the 1940's by Geoff Sanderson of Turangi, this pattern is still a great fish catcher.

Popular with Rainbows and Browns, this fly can be fished in rivers and at the river mouths. Even sea-run browns in the Hutt River during late summer will take it when fished with a floating line.

Thread	Danville Monocord 3/0
Hook	TMC 3796 size 2-10
Tail	Red fox squirrel or black squirrel
Body	Hot orange chenille
Hackle	Natural Brown or Ginger

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

Manawatu - April 22th/24th

April 22th/24th	Manawatu
May 13th/15th	Manganui o te Ao (Camping at Ruatiti Domain)
June 24th/26th	Turangi
July 29th/31st	Turangi
August 26th/28 th	Turangi

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

A STORY ABOUT THREE ANGLERS

Here we have a story about three anglers from the Wellington Fly Fishers Club, fly-fishing the Mohaka River, late February 2022 during a five-night stay.

The Mohaka river is on the North Island of New Zealand in the east central region of Hawke's Bay.



Mohaka is a Maori word, roughly translated it means “place for dancing”.

So, who were these anglers? Where did they stay? Where did they fish? What results did they end up with? The mysteries shall be unravelled soon!

Watch and believe, here is a “true” story of what unfolded!

Is this an invasion, onto a fishing location?

There was a vehicle coming from Miramar, another vehicle from Paraparaumu and yet another vehicle from Lake Tarawera! From all over the country!! Sounds like a meeting for a convoy!

These vehicles all congregated on Sunday, at the corner of SH 5 and Ohurakura Road, to meet up with the hosts of some newly available accommodation at the former Esk



Forest HQ camp, near Te Pohue.

The vehicle occupants were destined to descend onto the Mohaka River for four days fishing!



With one of these days as a raft/fishing day, these anglers of the “Wellington Club Fishing members eager for mid-week fishing” were keen to attack the Mohaka River in their search for trout and happy days!

Beware, as these anglers mean business! Age will not deter us and while we may seem oldish in years and rely heavily on those wading sticks, our enthusiasm is as prominent as any young keen angler.

Our days fishing may be shorter than those younger than us, but we seek quality time fishing!!

(And later, quality time resting, often with the help of a refreshment or two).

So who did we have in this party?... Lindsay, Grant and Maurice.

So, after unpacking, was it to be down Waitara Road or McVicars Road?

The vote was unanimous, we stayed put. This was a decision to adopt a fundamental rule for retirees –

“do not do today, that which you can put off till tomorrow”.

Full Day 1

Our vehicles took us down to McVicar Road first access by about 9:00am. After trying two more access locations along this road, we settled for lunch at Glenfalls Reserve. This kept us busy till three happy, but getting tired, anglers called it a day. Back to the accommodation by 4:00pm and in preparation for the rafting trip the next day. With preparations underway Lindsay found a big difference between a beer bottle and a bottle of beer! (One is full and the other empty). **9 fish today.**



Full Day 2 “Our Raft Trip”

Much can be said, so a shortened version is here.

Meeting with the rafter at 8:00am got us all geared up and on the water about 9:00am.

The route was from Glenfalls Reserve to the first Everett’s Landing, stopping to fish on the way.



The countryside beauty, the blue ducks, the frothy rapids water with an experienced raftsman and fine weather all added to a pleasant fishing and rafting experience.

Maurice contributed to caffeine-flavoured lunches when his coffee flask leaked into the contents of lunch boxes.

Most trout were released for another day.

Yes, we had a “smashing” time. To find the meaning of “smashing” ask a participant. No tales from me, says Maurice. Before coming back in the van, we were asked “Did you all break down your rods?”.



“Yes, we sure did;” was our joint response – two of them in fact, noting the emphasis on “break” rather than “down”.

When the anglers asked Maurice for a similar trip about the same time next year, what more can be said! **16 fish today.**

Full Day 3

Off for a small walk before fishing was to start.

Parking at Everett’s Landing we walked up and down to the old Everett’s camping ground.

What looked like promising water gave Grant a trout on his second cast. It was not till Maurice ventured upstream till he hooked into his first trout of the day. Most trout were in the 1 lb to 2lb region so were released to get fat for our next trip. With dark clouds coming we walked down another path to the river from where the old toilets were. Grant, Maurice and Lindsay all hooked into trout here to Maurice’s amazement. This enjoyable and pleasurable day was soon to come to an end as those grey clouds turned to light drizzle.

On the drive home this turned to rain. **11 trout today**

Full Day 4

This was to be our last day fishing – up McVicar Road and then to check out other accommodation.

Maurice started the day well with one on his first cast. So how did the rest of the day go? Let’s just call it a slow day that got even slower and slower. We met up with Tim Anderson of the NZ team who put on a display of wet lining and landed a good size fish. 3 trout today = 39 trout on this trip.

Back to the accommodation as the day heated up, as usual we had a good selection of hors d'oeuvres – cucumber with salmon and creamed cheese; slices of watermelon; crackers, dried apricots and crystalised ginger.

Friday saw our departure, after some full fishing days! Some early birds tried to sneak away early. Alas, this early riser found his car with a flat battery, so had to wait for the AA to come from Napier to effect his rescue.

Overall, we enjoyed the trip; the fishing was not easy!

We wish the National Team well with the National Championships on the Mohaka coming up soon.

If you are interested in joining these trips booking early is needed. the April and May trips seem to be already fully booked. Contact Maurice; Tel Paraparaumu 04 2989663 not after 8:00pm.

Watch the YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CC5g-hWHVwk>

MID-WEEK TRIP - Calendar

Month	Trip details
April	Manawatu River – Fully Booked
May	Rangitikei - 9 May to 13 May - One Space left
June	Tukituki - Sunday 12 June to Friday 17 June
July	Waimarino and Tauranga Taupo River mouths about Sunday 24 July to Friday 29 July



Snowbee Float Tube

\$499.99

Fishermans Raft

\$300.00 to \$350.00

Ideal for fishing places like Kourarau Dam,
Otamangakau & Kuratau Lakes

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 30 April

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