

Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
July 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 4 July, 7.30pm

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

PRESENTATION

Susi and Brian will give a video and photo presentation of
their summer trip up the Te Ureweras

WORKSHOP

Fly tying • Equipment • Fishing Spots etc...
Come and bring your questions on anything to do with fly
fishing. Discuss it one to one with those who can help

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: 29 - 31 July - Turangi

Fly Tying: Monday 18 July

On-Stream Day:

Saturday 16 July, **Venue TBA**
(Please call Strato 04 386 3740 by the
Wednesday prior)

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



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I was looking forward to spending time on the river over Queen's Birthday weekend. It had been a while since I had been in Turangi, so sharing the river with a crowd of others wasn't going to stop me. Unfortunately, Covid-19 did. A positive RAT on Friday settled any doubts. It also ruled out catching up friends at Turangi the following weekend. There was no way I was going to be healthy enough for both the drive and time on the river. The only positive was that I missed the floods that occurred, and had time to tie a good number of flies suitable for the Taupo rivers.

With a little luck Matariki might be good to me. I suspect my time on the river might still be limited, but it will good to stretch the legs.

I joined the Club fly-tying group on Monday evening. There was a good turnout with all the seats occupied. I found trying to explain the various steps in tying a tungsten bead nymph on a jig head challenging when the number of people there meant that they couldn't all see the fly I had on my vice. Nevertheless, people were patient, and there were some good flies created. I was asked for the name of the pattern I was demonstrating and the flies I showed them that I had tied while having Covid. The only flies I could perhaps ascribe a name to were the white caddis nymphs. I think the key message was that as long as the fly meets a few basics such as weight, shape, colour contrast and is not over dressed, i.e. sinks well enough, then it can catch fish in the Taupo rivers.

At the time of writing, we have not confirmed our speaker for the next Club meeting. Our back-up will be to run a workshop, covering various aspects of preparation for fly fishing and care of equipment. We still have some options we are following up on though, so do come along.

Tight lines

Paul

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Annual membership subs of \$35.00 are due for the year ending 31 March 2023.

There was a membership form in the June issue of Tight Lines or download one from the club website.

https://wellingtonflyfishers.files.wordpress.com/2021/06/wffc_membership_form_v2.pdf

Club Account: 06-0582-0030903-00

FLYBOX RAFFLE #1

This raffle will be drawn at the July meeting. There are still a few tickets available so get them on the night.

There is a first and a second prize to be won.

Our thanks to Richard Benefield for the donation of flies and fly boxes, with all the proceeds going towards funds for the Capital Trout Centre.

POND CLEAN-UP

As advised last month, the annual pond clean-up will be held over the weekend of 23rd and 24th July starting at 9am both days.

The usual gardening, spraying, and tidying up of the area needs doing. The water in the ponds is very clear and there does not seem to be too much silt.

One job that needs looking at is the roof. Does anyone have an extension ladder and be able to climb up and inspect the roof? The gutters also need cleaning.

TAUPO LICENCES

Remember to get your new Taupo Licences as the season starts 1st July 2022.

WHAT FLY TO USE - Which Fly Is Best

At the last fly tying night, a full table of fly tiers showed up in very cold conditions.

We had invited Paul Baker, our president, to show us the basics of the nymphs that he ties, not only for the Taupo area but also for general use. We were also to have a quick demonstration on how easy it is to tie a glow bug.

Paul had two of his nymphs on display and he took us through the fundamentals that he sees as being prerequisites in what makes a good fly.

First and foremost he was asked the name of the fly and it soon became apparent that this was rather irrelevant as a fly with a well-known name is no better than any other if it's not tied correctly.

First and foremost, the fly that you are tying should represent a food item that the fish recognise which may vary depending on the time of year and the availability of that food item in the wild.

The fly should have a number of fundamental characteristics.

- a) It should roughly be the same size and shape of the natural. Too often flies are tied with too much dubbing and are overdressed. The length of the fly is also an important factor.
- b) The weight of the fly. This will very much depend on the water you are fishing and the time of year. Fishing the Taupo rivers in the winter time, depth is extremely important and adding enough weight to the fly to get down

to the trout who are making their spawning journey is critical to success. Adding a tungsten bead to the head of the fly can also be supplemented with a small amount of lead along the shank. This heavy fly can be used to take a much lighter one to the bottom.

Paul likes to use jig hooks which turn upside down and do not catch as much rubbish on the bottom.

- c) Getting the trout's attention is a key factor .not only in respect to the colour of the materials you are using but also the use of materials that sparkle and catch the trout's eye.
- d) Next and by no means least is to ensure that you have some movement in the fly with the use of soft hackles.

It is of course possible for flies to be produced in plastic that exactly imitate particular food items, however they lack one fundamental ingredient and that is movement.

The fly that Paul tied for us incorporated all the above ingredients and should be a winner for all those who attended.

And it has no name.

UPCOMING CLUB TRIPS

Trip Dates	Location
June 24th/26th	Turangi
July 29th/31st	Turangi
August 26th/28 th	Turangi

To book your place on a club trip please contact Strato (04) 386 3740

WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

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

FLY OF THE MONTH

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



Orange Rabbit

Some lures are essential for the central Plateau. Along with Red Setter, Craig's Night Time, Smelt, Woolly Bugger and Glow Bug – Orange Rabbit completes the basic selection. An easy pattern to tie that works particularly well in Taupo's rivers.

Hook	TMC 5262 size 2 – 10
Thread	Black Mono
Tail	Orange hackle fibres
Rib	Silver oval tinsel
Body	Orange Chenille
Wing	Natural or grey rabbit fur strip
Hackle	Natural or grey hackle.

Instructions

- Tie in thread at bend
- Tie in orange tail fibres to the bend
- Tie in tinsel at bend and let hang
- Tie in orange chenille at bend and wrap thread to head, then wrap chenille to head.
- Trim rabbit skin at front end to a point.
- Tie in pointed end of rabbit at head
- Wrap tinsel over rabbit to head (3 wraps) trying not to catch fur and tie off behind head.
- Tie in brown hackle feather at head and wrap 2 or 3 times.
- Tie off.

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

A TRIP WITH FOUR ANGLERS...

Was it the recent wellington “weather bomb” that sent four anglers to go fly fishing?

A trip with four anglers had planned to go fly fishing midweek during mid-June 2022, staying at the Patangata Hastings Angling Club accommodation.

Rain, thunder and lightning were howling across the lower North Island. Did we really want to go trout fishing? Of course, why not?

The introductory photos supplied showed a clear sky and clear fishing water, so the intrepid four set off!

Coming north through Woodville, there were signs a better weather ahead, as even the sky had a bright light shining, called the sun.

Some of us arrived Sunday evening, with the rest arriving about lunchtime on the Monday 13 June.

So what were the conditions?

While the weather was good the rivers were unfishable, except any spring creeks.

The Tukituki River was close to bank to bank, and later became bank to bank; the Waipawa River had some new streams, when inspected at Walkers Road, on our first day of scouting around for fishable water. Both rivers had that light brown, khaki look, that we all know suggests “not fishable”.

Tuesday morning, our first day fishing, was when we discovered the Mangaonuku Stream, which was clear with no wind. Fishing here was a good omen with Jeannie hooking into the first trout about 10:00am. Maurice had a hook up soon after.



Early Sunrise

Grant and Lindsay helped bring the tally to 12 for Day One.

Later we partook of smoked trout, crackers and cucumber with salmon and a 27-year-old Pinot Noir. The disintegrating cork took some kiwi ingenuity to filer it.



This was also accompanied by Jeannie's banana cake. Similar snacks were enjoyed each night.

As a novice fisherwoman Jeannie appreciated all the advice Maurice provided about where to fish and how to set up her rig. This meant Jeannie managed to hook into a second trout.

Wednesday and Thursday's fishing while not fully as successful, still allowed us to add to our trip tally. Thanks to Grant for two more trout.

Now this technique employed needs to be explained:

Pull out about 12 hoops of flyline from the reel and let it rest on the ground at your feet;

Cast out, mend and then feed out most of this excess flyline with the "wiggle effect";

This "wiggle effect" means wiggling your rod quickly side to side to let the flyline have a good drift down stream;

Keep allowing more flyline out until there at least 10 metres drifting downstream;

Let the flyline rest at the end of the drift for at least 10 seconds and then the line starts to jerk and see a trout has taken the drifting fly.

Really good to use when the water is clear and you may be afraid you are seen by the trout.

We all kept looking at the countryside as we drove to the Tutaekuri River, at the Lower Flag Road access point. This short stop-over was on our way to the Mangaonuku Stream. We just took a small detour, well maybe a long detour! Yes, we all believe this, as the angler's truth! It was high, dirty, uncrossable and unfishable.



It was Friday morning as we packed our vehicles in overcast conditions and just as we had finished the clean-up, had the cars packed it started raining again...Seems time to go home and Maurice can plan for more future trips and others can let him know they also want to come along.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57zj84XxOH4>).

Written with contributions from Jeannie, Maurice, Grant and Lindsay.

MAURICES MID-WEEK TRIP CALENDAR

Month	Trip details
July	Tokannu fishing River mouths - FULLY BOOKED
August	Patangata possibly Tukituki and Waipawa Rivers this time. Monday 22 August to Friday 26 August.
September	Tokannu fishing River mouths Sun 18 September to Fri 23 September room for two more in separate unit.
October	Ruakituri River Retreat - FULLY BOOKED.
November	Ruamahanga River, Monday 21 November to Friday 25 November Close to being FULLY BOOKED.

Month	Trip details
December	Upper Whanganui River staying at Maranui, Monday 12 December to Friday 16 December. room for one or two persons.
February 2023	Mohaka River with rafting trip meeting up with Trout Unlimited members from Hawaii, USA FULLY BOOKED.
March 2023	Rangitikei River staying at Silverdale FULLY BOOKED.

Remember these mid week trips are often planned and paid for well in advance. In most cases 20-30 day advance payments are required to secure booking – transferable, but not refundable. Catering for those members who can get away and prefer mid-week fishing trips. These are usually a higher standard accommodation, with bedding and towels supplied on occasions, and a separate bedroom.

To book your place on a mid week trip or for more details please contact Maurice.

Email maurice-fishing@xtra.co.nz tel Paraparaumu 04 2989663 (Not after 8:00pm please).

INTRODUCING KAPITI WOMEN ON THE FLY

The following email was received by Strato from the Kapiti Fly Fishing Club.

Kia Ora

I am writing to ask for support from your club for a project of the Kapiti Fly Fishing Club - Kapiti Women on The Fly.

In 2021, my husband and I joined the Kapiti Fly Fishing Club and after being elected to the committee, Kapiti Women on The Fly was initiated to get more women involved in fly fishing locally.

The goals of Kapiti Women on The Fly are to:

- To grow female club membership and encourage more female participation in fly fishing in the wider Wellington region,
- Build a support group for current and inspiring female anglers, where women can make friends, gain confidence, and learn skills.
- To raise the profile of fly fishing as a healthy outdoor activity for women that has proven positive effects on mental health and wellbeing.

Growth has been organic to date including:

- A virtual network of women in our region who fish, or who would like to fish.
- Casting lessons and on-river events (with support from club members Gordon Baker & Michael Murphy).
- An inaugural trip to Turangi, with two further trips planned for June & July.
- Relationships with other female anglers across New Zealand, in particular with the Taupo Club members and the NZ Fly Ferns.

Early on, Wellington Fish & Game staff indicated their support for these activities. Last week I attended the Wgtn F&G meeting, where we received positive support from the council.

My Request is for you to please use your club channels to encourage your female members (and any women interested in fly fishing) to join our network.

You can find us on

www.facebook.com/WomenontheFlyKapiti,
www.instagram.com/kapitiwomenonthe-fly and at
www.kapitiflyfishing.org/kapitiwomenonthe-fly.
(I am at leigh@leighjohnsonnz.com and 027 44 88 282.)

Weekend Workshop

Lastly, later this year, we plan to host a residential weekend workshop for women in the Wellington region.

The format will include social interaction, workshops and on-the-water activities. Sessions will be hosted by experienced women fly fishers from Wellington and further afield on topics such as:

- Casting
- Equipment & gear set up
- River craft (Safety/wading etc.)
- Fly tying
- Environmental issues
- Other...?

Planning is underway within the club, so please expect to hear more as we progress.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or feedback.

Kind regards, Leigh



New
Sage R8 Core Fly rods 9'6" 6wt
Perfect for central North Island river fishing
SIMS packs and accessories
View the full range now in store

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 16 July

Venue to be advised. 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 2022 - 31 MARCH 2023

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