

# TIGHT LINES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON  
FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

## March 2019

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**Cover:** Charlotte Mears on the Hinemaiaia river (Pauline McIntyre)

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Christmas and New Year holidays are now over for most of us and we are now back to fitting in our fishing trips into the weekends. In our previous magazine I commented on the excellent early season fishing in all our rivers and there certainly been some excellent weather. Stories of great fishing have continued to come from numerous anglers especially on the local front but the excellent weather has a two edged sword. Most rivers in our region are now suffering from low water flows and warm temperature. Once the water temperature gets above 19 to 20 degrees fish are not so active feeders and are looking for oxygenated water and deeper pools. Mid-morning fishing before the sun has had a chance to increase the water temperature seems to be the best bet.

The cicada season is now well and truly apparent out on our local rivers and our last On Stream day saw 13 fish come to the fly. It is important to make sure your cicada flies are not over-dressed and there is plenty of space in the gape of the hook. Of the 13 fish that rose to the cicada on the On Stream day only 6 were finally netted with most being lost in the first few seconds. Make sure your hooks are also nice and sharp. The cicada season should last a few more weeks so give it a go.

Strato

## **FICKLE RAINBOWS**

Rainbow trout have always been regarded as easier to catch than the more elusive brown trout. Their more aggressive nature, especially during the spawning season when they will snap at anything coming within their domain, makes the rainbow a prime target for novice anglers. For this very reason the Capital Trout Centre and other children's fishing ponds throughout the country, are all stocked with rainbow trout on the basis they are easier to catch.

However, recent experiences at the Capital Trout Centre shows that they can still be very discerning especially when it comes to their food.

For the last twenty years the Capital Trout Centre has been using a particular type of food pellet which sinks reasonably easily and is easy to imitate with a range of small dark flies. This year however the Trout Centre was offered a significant amount of food from King Salmon at no cost which was of significant benefit to the Centre. However unlike the previous food, this food was dehydrated and after one or two hesitant days, the rainbows put on a spectacular surface display each time they were fed. While the visual effect excites the children who visit the Centre on our various events, and is also a welcome supplement to the diet of the many ducks which now inhabit the pond, trying to create a fly which imitates the food pellet floating on the surface has proved extremely difficult. Soaking the dehydrated food overnight, enables much of it to now sink but the fish are still very particular about which fly they are prepared to accept.

Last week we had a shipment of 450 rainbows from the Turangi hatchery which were duly delivered using the

Ngongotaha tanker which keeps the water temperatures somewhat cooler than the 19 degrees they faced when discharged into our pond.

Not surprisingly therefore, the first few days showed very little activity while they recovered from this ordeal but it was not long before these trout were also fixated on the new food and provided a challenge for our club members on the Open Day held on the 17<sup>th</sup> February. No doubt those anglers who regularly visit the pond and assist with the various events will be matching their flytying techniques in an attempt to produce the secret fly the trout will be unable to resist. The next few events at the pond should be very interesting.

## **WELLINGTON FISH & GAME MEETING**

The Wellington Fish & Game Council meets every two months at various venues in the Manawatu, Wairarapa and Upper Hutt.

The next meeting is the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, 11 Logan Street, Ebdentown, Upper Hutt starting at 3.00pm. This meeting is open to the public and usually lasts approximately three hours with dinner provided at 6.00pm.

This a great opportunity for club members to have an insight into the workings of Fish & Game and the issues faced by not only the Wellington Council but the whole Fish & Game movement. It is also an opportunity for licence holders to ask questions of their Council on relevant issues.

If you are interested in attending the next meeting, please contact Strato on 386 3740 (evenings).

## **POND GETS NEW OXYGENATION UNIT**

Prior to the 2017/2018 season the Wellington City Council built us an oxygenation unit from an old pump found at the tip and some suitable pipe work. This was gratefully received and had an immediate effect on the fish activity in the pond especially during the hot summer days.

Unfortunately the pump which had been sent to the tip on the basis that it had reached its final days, finally gave up working at the end of the season but in the meantime had encouraged us to persevere with the idea of an oxygenation unit to supplement the pond's oxygen levels.

With the hot summer this year, we again tried to get the pump working but a new club member, Ken Clarke, who has some considerable experience in pump maintenance, pronounced it well and truly dead.

Ken however was able to procure a pump which is specially designed for the purpose and spent some time ensuring that the whole system worked properly.

The effect on the pond has been quite dramatic and both the club members and the rainbows send him our sincere thanks for the time and effort he's put into this operation

## **CLUB MEETING**

### **MARCH CLUB MEETING**

#### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Tararua Tramping Club Rooms, 4 Moncrieff St., Mt  
Victoria 7.30pm

### **WELLINGTON FISH & GAME**

2019 Drift dives of the main rivers in the  
Wellington Region.

How it is done and the 2019 results

#### **Welcome to New Members**

Stephanie Pocklington

#### **Club Trip**

March 16-17                      Tukituki  
Saturday, Manawatu Sunday

#### **Onstream**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March                      Wainuiomata River

## **POND OPEN DAY**

The next Open Day at the Capital Trout Centre will be on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Registration tickets will be available at Steve's Fishing Shop and Hunting & Fishing from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

We thank both shops for their continued support in the issuing of tickets.

The day begins at 9am and we have the last group come through at 3pm.

We need club members to assist for whatever time suits.

Please phone Strato if you can help.

Plastic Bags. We would be happy to receive supplies of bread bags and newspaper delivery bags for use at events at the Capital trout Centre

## **TROPHIES**

Each year the club presents a number of trophies and prizes.

Categories are as follows:-

- Heaviest Fish Junior (aged 16 and under)

- Heaviest Fish Senior
- Best Condition Factor

Send details to Peter Nagle as per the instructions elsewhere in the magazine.

We have had very few entries this year (1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019) but hopefully you have all had some experiences over the holiday period which are worthwhile entering into the various categories.

We must have your entries by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

### **Club competition**

The annual competition for the Club's fishing trophy is to be held on the Ruamahanga River on Saturday 9 March. This has always been a friendly affair and closely contested by a few keen anglers. The competition is not restricted to experienced anglers however, 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 have the opportunity to pick up on a few ideas from the experienced anglers.

There are some good numbers of fish in the Ruamahanga. The Sports Fly Fishing NZ Wellington Regional was held there on 12 January. For the day, six anglers caught 40 trout. The average catch rate was just under one fish per hour, and average size 37cm long. The largest fish, rainbow and brown, measured 50cm each.

The fishing got tough in the later sessions as in those competitions every beat gets fished over three times. (If you draw a beat that a top angler fished in the previous session, it can be very tough.)

For the Club competition however we try to allow every angler to fish fresh water. That will depend on numbers of competitors and conditions on the day.

Full competition details will be sent to competitors before the competition. Note: the competition rules are to meet Fish & Game regulations only, i.e. competitors do not have to conform to Sports Fly Fishing NZ rules, or provide a controller.

If you are interested, or want more details contact Paul by email: [pbakerema@gmail.com](mailto:pbakerema@gmail.com)

## FEATHER MERCHANTS FLY OF THE MONTH

Venue: Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm  
(Access through side door on north side of building)

### Gold (Black) Bead Hare & Copper Nymph

This is arguably New Zealand's greatest contribution to fly design. It is the easiest pattern to tie in its most simple form yet it is one of the most effective nymph designs. Tied "in the round" so it looks the same no matter how it is drifting.

A perfect starting place for anyone thinking about giving flytying a go.

Larger examples probably suggest large swimming mayflies, bullies and stoneflies,

medium sizes suggest caddis pupae and small ones midge pupae.



Hook	TMC 3769 size 8-18
Thread	Danville 6/0 black
Rib	Copper wire
Underbody	Lead wire
Body	Dubbed hares fur
Bead	Gold or Black bead

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



# Hunting & Fishing

N E W   Z E A L A N D

*COME IN AND SEE*

*Sierra Stretch* **\$399.99**  
*Waders*

*Sims Tributary*  
*Stocking Foot* **\$349.99**  
*Waders*

*Club discount 10% available on*  
*flyfishing purchases with your*  
*membership card*

*The Flyfishing Experts*

Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ

444 Cuba Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt, P O Box 33 206, Petone,  
Wellington, New Zealand  
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500 Facsimile: 0064-4-589 9520

**MEETING VENUE (TARARUA TRAMPING CLUB ROOMS) 4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria**

**From motorway:**

Follow Vivian Street and turn left onto Cambridge Terrace, then first right into Elizabeth Street at the next set of traffic lights.



**Travelling South on Kent Terrace:**

Turn left into Elizabeth Street at the first set of traffic lights after the Embassy Theatre (by the Liquor Store).

Additional parking is available at the Clyde Quay school – use the top gate.

**Casting Tuition**

Anyone wanting casting tuition please contact Strato

**HELPFUL LINKS FOR WELLINGTON FLY FISHERS**



[www.creeltackle.com](http://www.creeltackle.com)



<http://wellington.fishandgame.org.nz>



[www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz](http://www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz)



[www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington](http://www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington)



[www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz](http://www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz)



[www.fishscene.co.nz](http://www.fishscene.co.nz)

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the April issue is 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

As a guide for article length – anything from 250-450 words per page. Early submission preferred – items not received by the deadline may not be included. Format text for A5 page size. Please copy and paste text into an email and ensure images do not exceed 1Mb. Mail hard copy to PO Box 9236, TeAro, Wellington; or email the editor. (Attached files often result in incoming emails being treated as spam and being deleted by the server).

**The newsletter depends on contributions from club members and all articles are eligible for the annual Literary Prize awarded at the AGM in May each year.**

**Advertising:** The club has a policy of only accepting advertising relating to fishing. Commercial rates \$25 per half page, members no charge. Centrefold (Promotional material only) \$75. Contact the club secretary. **Please support our advertisers** – tell them you saw their ad in *Tight Lines*.

**Receive the Newsletter as a pdf via email**

Contact the club secretary to be added to the mail list (Please check your email settings so that the newsletter is not deleted as 'spam' or 'junk')

**COMMITTEE MEETING** – 6.15 pm, second Monday every month.

Any club member who has matters which they believe should be considered by the committee may discuss them with a committee member by phone, or at the club meeting, or write to the secretary.

### **THE 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 Helpdeskout. It will be manned by a different senior club member each month.

### **WEBSITE**

The club website and facebook pages provide online information, contact details and useful links.

<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 to have a form mailed to you. Mail the completed form to PO Box 9236, TeAro, 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 2018 - 31 March 2019**

Full member or family membership \$35, Junior membership no fee.

Joining fee \$10

Overseas Newsletter

postage \$45

**Enquiries [wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com](mailto:wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com)**

### **WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB MISSION**

To establish, maintain and conduct a club for the encouragement and promotion of flyfishing and all activities pertaining thereto.

## 2018-2019 COMMITTEE

<b>President</b>	StratoCotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Past President</b>	Paul Baker	970-2595
<b>Secretary</b>	Heather Millar	386-3049
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carmen Cotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Hal Levine	027-420-0482
<b>Librarian</b>	Warren Horne	386-3049
<b>Website</b>	Peter Nagle	479-4944
<b>Club Trips</b>	StratoCotsilinis	386-3740
<b>Catering</b>	Robyn Gray	475-9572
<b>Print Manager</b>	Peter Nagle	479-4944
<b>Fly Tying &amp; Casting</b>	<b>StratoCotsilinis</b>	<b>386-3740</b>
<b>Club Competitions</b>	Paul Baker	970-2595
<b>Committee</b>	Peter Buxton	472-3456
	Brian Bee	021-630075
	Scott Garelli	021-325032
	John Gamble	0275175825
	Linda Brown	022304770