

# Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



# TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter  
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.  
September 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 5 September, 7.30pm**

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

Guest Speaker

**DAVE HEARN**

A very experienced Hawkes Bay fisherman who is still running his guiding business (although he has sold his shop) This is not to be missed

## EVENTS THIS MONTH

**Club Trip:** 16-18 September - TukiTuki

**Fly Tying:** Monday 19 September - Royal Wulf

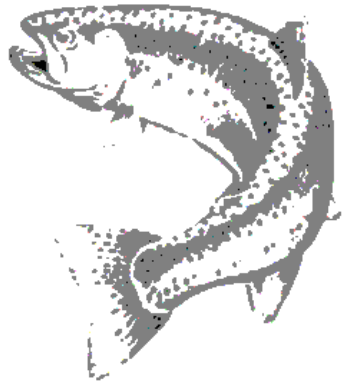
**On-Stream Day:**

Saturday 11 September, **Venue TBA**  
(Please call Strato 04 386 3740 by the  
Wednesday prior)

**Pond Open Day:**

Sunday 4 September - 9 am till 3.30 pm

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



## FISHING LICENCES

The new season for Fish & Game begins 1<sup>st</sup> October.  
Get your new licence now online.

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I am pleased to advise that Dave Hern is coming from Hawkes Bay to speak to the Club this month. You may be familiar with the sports shop in Waipukurau that Dave owned and ran for many years: Dave Hern Fishing and Shooting Outfitters. Dave is no longer in the sports shop, but he is still busy with his fishing and hunting guiding business. In fact, it has been hard to find a time between seasons that Dave wasn't too busy with his guiding activities to make it down to Wellington. Dave has a huge understanding of what skills anglers need to be successful in the Hawkes Bay and I recommend you bring some questions along for him. You can be guaranteed an answer, even if it is to say he won't tell you the location of his favourite spring creek – there are just some things you have to suss out for yourself or bribe a mate to tell you.

The Taupo rivers have been challenging for those trying to fish weekends, but outstanding for fishers with more flexibility in their timing, a little luck and some determination. I have heard of people catching fish by the dozen when they have struck the right locations and conditions. The Hinemaiaia River is a favoured location when every other river is unfishable. This is because the hydro dams upstream dilute the flood waters until the lakes too become filthy. I understand it has been almost impossible to find a spot to get on to the river at times. In these circumstances it is useful to have the ability to fish with different rigs to adapt to the pool you are fishing.

The Committee has agreed to recommence the inter-club fly tying competition with the Kapiti and Hutt Valley Anglers Clubs. This event will be held in November in the Hutt. If you are interested in being part of the WFFC team, then contact Strato or me. The team consists of three experienced fly tiers and someone less experienced (I am not sure how that is defined, but we will figure something out.). If we have too many interested persons, we might have a qualifying competition one fly tying evening – now that would be fun!

The new season is almost with us, so don't forget to purchase your new season's licence

*Tight lines*  
*Paul*

# TROUT ARRIVE AT CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

A Trout Transporter arriving at the gates of the Capital Trout Centre on the Wednesday 16th August was a very welcome sight.



The tanker driver had an excellent drive down from the Ngongotaha Hatchery and he thought Transmission Gully was excellent.

A thousand trout were quickly deposited into the Capital Trout Centre front pond ready for the Open Day.

The Capital trout Centre has fared well with the significant rainfall received in the Wellington areas over the last few weeks and the extra measures we have taken to avoid flooding, all seem to have worked.

Within days of their arrival the new comers are actively feeding and have adapted well to their surroundings despite the fact that the heavy recent rainfall has made the waters of the pond considerably dirtier than what they would be used to at the hatchery.

Hopefully we get good weather for the Open Day on the Sunday 4th September so that young budding anglers can experience the thrill of landing one of these feisty rainbows.

## **CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE OPEN DAY**

**Sunday 4 September**

Fathers Day – a good day for kids to bring their family to the Capital Trout Centre to watch them catch a fish.

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**

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



# FLY OF THE MONTH

**Monday 19 September, 7.30pm** - Tararua Tramping Club  
Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

## Royal Wulff

The Royal Wulff is a must have in any fly box, especially deadly on Rainbows who find it hard to resist. Originated by master angler Lee Wulff around 1930 to imitate a beetle, it has stood the test of time virtually unchanged ever since. It can be used almost anywhere.



<b>Hook</b>	TMC 9300 size 10-16
<b>Thread</b>	6/0 black or red
<b>Wing</b>	White calf body hair
<b>Tail</b>	Moose mane or similar
<b>Body</b>	Peacock herl separated by red floss or thread
<b>Hackle</b>	Brown

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

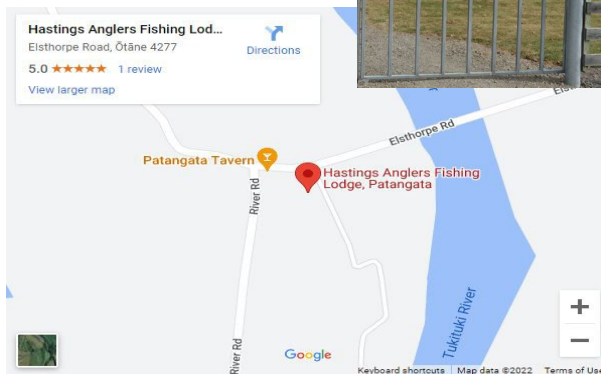
## BEST CONDITION FACTOR FISH

- CF = 43.238
- Caught by Michael Phelan
- Rainbow trout
- Weight 3.5 lbs
- Length 51cm
- Caught Hinemia July 2022



# UPCOMING CLUB TRIPS

**TukiTuki 16-18 September.**



Staying at the Hastings Club house (Patangata)

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



# FISHING THE DIRTY WATER - LESSONS LEARNED

The July club trip to Turangi followed a period of heavy rain in the Taupo area.

Arriving lunchtime on the Friday, a look at the Tongariro from the main road bridge showed it high and dirty and no anglers in sight.

The Waiotaka was over spilling its banks onto the main highway and the Waimarino was just lapping the underside of the main road bridge.

The Tauranga Taupo was not much better but there was a group of anglers casting hopeful lines. No one had any success but then one of them received a phone call indicating that the Hinemaia was fishable and the fish were running. By the time we got there all the car parks were full but amazingly the water was very fishable. I found a spot all to myself with no back casts but up steam roll casts managed to achieve a reasonable drift.

Very little success for a start until I noticed a fish splashing its way up the side of the rapid just downstream from my position. Over the next two hours a dozen fish took the glo bug drifted into the slow water above the rapid, followed by a similar experience the following morning.

**Lesson 1 – The Hinemaia is often clear when all the other rivers are dirty** due to the fact the dirty water is held back at the dam and as the sediments settle, cleaner water is allowed to flow down the river.

**Lesson 2 –** Generally we like to fish up stream to fish that have made their way up stream of your position and collect at the base of the next rapid ready to tackle the next bit of turbulent water.. However **fish often sit at the head of the rapid below you**, resting a little after their battle up the rapid **and a floated glo bug can be very productive.**

I was to learn later on that a group of anglers from a Dunedin based club were also visiting Turangi at that time and on the Friday morning, when the Tongariro was high and dirty, had fished one of the lower

pools and were very successful at catching rainbows right on the edge of a pool fishing glo bugs in the dirty water.

**Lesson 3 – spawning fish will often run up stream in very dirty water conditions keeping to the edge of each pool as much as possible and keeping out of the current** with no anglers to push them away from the edge. A tasty glo bug floating past them even in dirty water will be very attractive.

**Lesson 4 – no matter what the weather conditions, a bit of searching and persistence can still result in a very productive fishing experience.**

*Strato Cotsilinis*

## WINTER FISHING IN JULY

So what is winter fishing like at Turangi in July?

A trip was planned for the River mouths as yet another mid week fly fishing trip.

This time three members from the Wellington and another was booked from the Hastings Anglers Club.

Our usual accommodation was at the Tokannu Motor Lodge which gives a deal for Gold Card members staying five nights from Sundays, outside school holidays and peak periods.



The usual introductory information sheet showed what River mouth fishing was normally like- being able to park near the mouth at walk

about 25 metres into the lake. The lake was rather high on this trip with half metres waves.

The car was parked along the bush track and we walked 20 minutes to the river mouth through some deep puddles – first near knee deep and the second well over knee deep.

Did this stop us having a fish? No!! It was raining on and off this morning. On our first day fishing Maurice hooked and nearly landed a good trout. Losing a good trout in six inches of water and about to be landed was not a good start for the day, even though it took him a mere 15 minutes for the hook up.

In the afternoon we strolled down to some bottom Tongariro River pools for a cast or two.

It rained all night. We were thankful that night as the Lodge drying room had room for all our wet gear which was very dry by morning

Next day with the Tongariro River crowded we headed up the Tauranga Taupo and were fortunate to be the second car arriving. The morning was enjoyable, but yes, we had some heavy rain. Again, it rained most of the night.

Wednesday came along and with the Tongariro River and the Tauranga-Taupo both a brownish colour and in flood, off to the Hinemaia River. Here a good spot was found with many spawning fish visible, but losing fish on almost each hook up! Down river for the afternoon and using wet line with an “*official net catcheree*” finally a trout was landed.

Next day back to the same place and using a wet line to be productive with Michael hooking into about 12 trout and Lindsay hooking into a monster – probably about 6 feet long and about 90 kg. About the collar!!

The “*official net catcheree*” did an excellent job and even wants to come again, but as a trout catcheree, this next time!





So yes, winter is when it rains and rains, but we did not expect so much rain.

A quick dip in the accommodation hot pools provided a restful end to this trip.

*Maurice, Michael and Lindsay.*

## AVAILABLE SPACES FOR MID WEEK FISHING TRIPS

### **September**

There is still room for mid week fishing staying at Tokannu Motor Lodge for September. Deal is five nights in Sunday 18 Sept out Friday 23 Sept.

We have two persons already and room for another two in another unit. Dates: Contact Maurice for further details [maurice.fishing@xtra.co.nz](mailto:maurice.fishing@xtra.co.nz) or tel 04 2989663 (before 8pm).

### **December**

Monday 12 December to Friday 16 December. 4 nights 3 days fishing, Staying at Maranui, near Tauramanui fishing Upper Whanganui River.(before school holidays, and coming home hopefully before holiday traffic starts) Room for one or two more persons.

## MAURICES MID-WEEK TRIP CALENDAR

Month	Trip details
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.
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](mailto:maurice-fishing@xtra.co.nz) tel Paraparaumu 04 2989663 (Not after 8:00pm please).



**New season licences now available.**

*Free cap with all whole season licences purchased  
from the store*

**Airflo Atom Fly Combo (fly rod and reel)  
Special Now \$249.99**

**Large range of Lawson and Ross fly reels**

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 11 September

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>

## HELPPDESK

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 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. 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](mailto: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

<b>President</b>	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	Susi Lang	027 564 6008
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



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