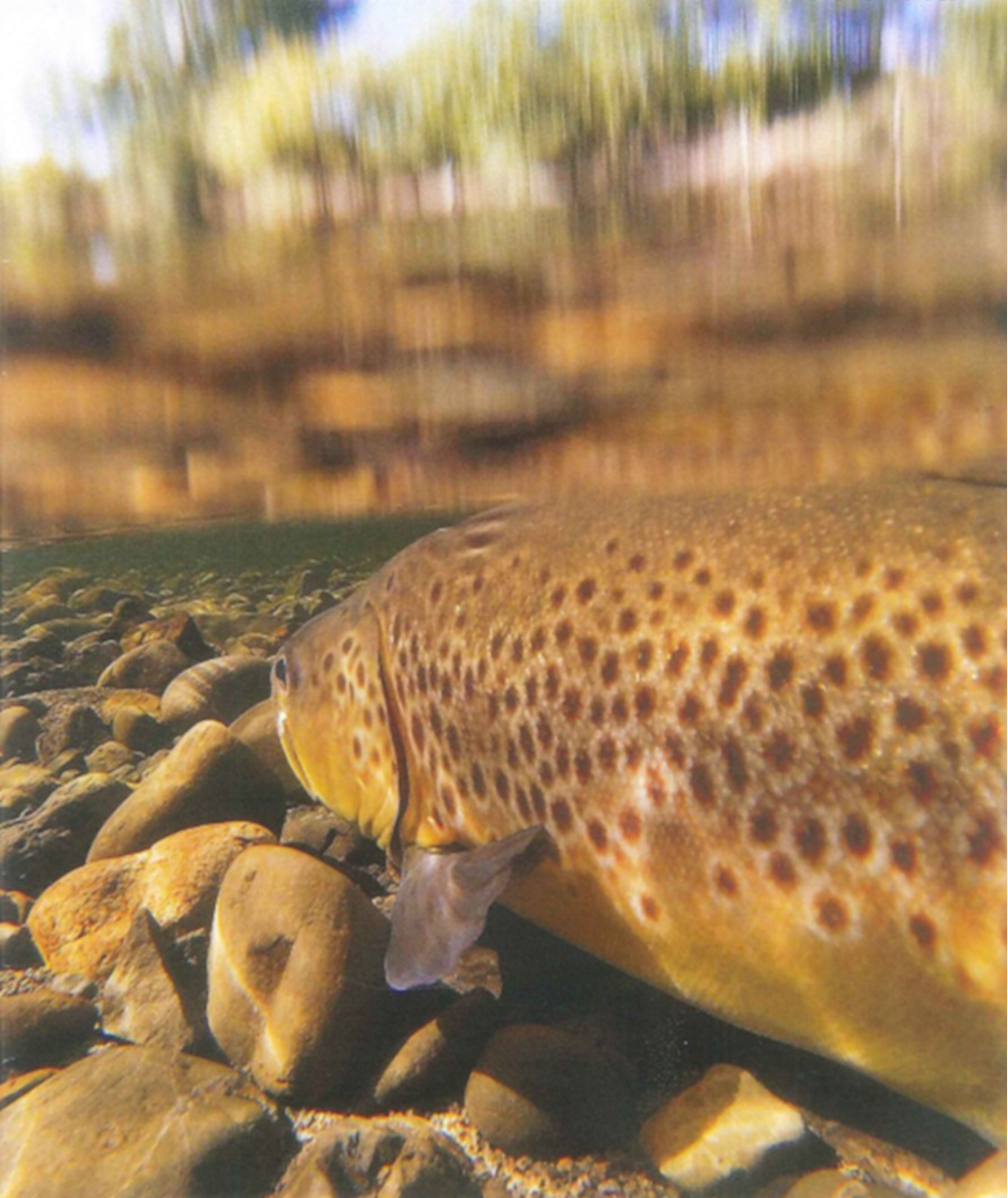


# Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



# TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter  
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.  
November 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 November, 7.30pm**  
Tararua Tramping Club rooms - 4 Moncrieff St, Mount  
Victoria, Wellington

## Saltwater Fishing At Kuri Bay

a presentation by Warren Horne

### EVENTS THIS MONTH

**Club Trip:** 18-20 November - Rangitikei

**Fly Tying:** Monday 21 November – Green Beetle

**On-Stream Day:**

Saturday 26 November, Wainuiomata (9am  
at bottom bridge) Please call Strato 04 386  
3740 by the Wednesday prior

**Capital Trout Centre**

The next Open Day is scheduled to be held on  
Sunday 11th December. There will be a  
reminder in the December issue of Tight  
Lines.

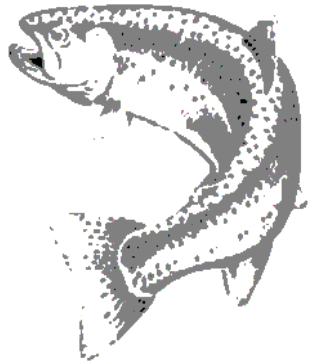
**Women On The Fly – Spring Workshop**

Upper Hutt 25/27th November

An initiative of the Kapiti Fly Fishing Club

Contact Leigh Johnson ([leigh@leighjohnsonnz.com](mailto:leigh@leighjohnsonnz.com))

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



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

International exchange rates are not something that anglers associate with fishing opportunities. This year, however, it seems the combination of the relaxation of travel restrictions and the strength of the US dollar have together resulted in particularly high levels of interest from US anglers keen on fishing in New Zealand. The manager of a leading central North Island fishing lodge advised me that they are fully booked in the peak summer months and have had enough enquiries to keep 40 fishing guides employed. They don't have that many guides and nor is there sufficient suitable water available at the rivers they usually target to cope with that many anglers. A club member has also reported on high fishing pressure in the upper-Buller catchment already this season. Such anecdotal evidence is not overly useful however when it comes to determining if there is excessive pressure on our prime sports fisheries. Perhaps it is time for more surveys that can be used when debating the impact of fishing pressure on popular fisheries? There are commercial interests that benefit directly from promoting prime fly-fishing waters to international anglers. They could be expected to strongly resist any restriction on visiting anglers. We need good data so that fisheries managers can find the right balance between the current open access for all on most waters, and enabling a quality fishing experience.

Coming up this month we have the reinstatement of the annual fly-tying competition between local clubs. The Hutt Valley Angling Club is hosting the event at their meeting venue, the Koraunui Stokes Valley Community Hub, 184 Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley. It will be held at 7.30pm November 14. Representing our Club are Strato, Richard Benfield, Michael Gunn and myself.

I understand the Club trip to the Mohaka River was a success, which is pleasing. I look forward to hearing some details at the next meeting, as well as Warren's presentation.

I have a trip planned to the upper-Buller in late November. I am obviously hoping for clear rivers, but note that NIWA has forecast high rainfall on the western side of the South Island for November. We will just have to take our chances.

*Tight lines*  
*Paul*

## INTER-CLUB FLY TYING COMPETITION

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022

This year the competition will be hosted by Hutt Valley Angling Club starting at 7.30pm at the Koraunui Stokes Valley Community Hub, 184 Stokes Valley Road, Stokes Valley.

This is a great opportunity to see some excellent fly tiers in action.

If you intend being there, please advise me accordingly so catering arrangements can be made.

Please contact Strato (04) 386 3740

## BEST FISH AWARDS

Current records 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023

### **Hunting & Fishing heaviest fish (senior)**

Judy Burney	6.5lb	Lake O - October 2022
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### **Wallace Condition Factor: best conditioned fish**

Michael Phelan	CF 43.238	Hinemaiaia - July 2022
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# CONDITION FACTOR FOR TROUT

The condition factor for trout is a measurement aimed at indicating how healthy the trout is.

The formula uses both the weight and length of the trout to calculate the factor.

Scientists use these factors to assess the relative health of trout in any waterway, generally as a reflection of the available food supply.

There are a number of condition factor formulas but the one generally used can be calculated either using metric measurements or imperial measurements.

Below are the details as to how the condition factor is calculated.

Any calculation resulting in a number in excess of 50 means the trout condition is excellent.

However the object of the exercise is to catch one first, and then you can follow the formula.

## Metric

$$\frac{\text{Weight} \times 3612.8}{\text{Length}^3}$$

Weight = grams

eg 1.20Kg = 1,200 grams

Length = Centimetres

eg 40 cm

CF = 67.74

## Imperial

$$\frac{\text{Weight}}{\text{Length}^3} \times \frac{100,000}{1}$$

Weight = lbs

eg 2.64 lb

Length = inches

eg 16 inches

CF = 64.45

# LET'S GO BACK COUNTRY

## **Another mid-week fly fishing trip away, this time Mid October 2022.**

First came the back country, next came the anglers!

The back country was this stretch of water known as the Ruakituri River!

What, and where is this; were my first thoughts when I first ventured up there a few years ago. Yes, a mere six to seven hours drive from Paraparaumu! Up past Napier, and past Frasertown!

Accommodation for a first trip away, a few years back, was at some infrequently used shepherd's quarters, where this first task was to find a broom to clear away the cobwebs and dirt and dust.

The showers were concrete walls and the small room was down a bank, in a paddock, through the long grass.

But we still had an enjoyable time.

The anglers on this current trip were seeking a higher standard accommodation, which we soon found. Plenty of bedrooms with an ample lounge and cooking areas with those self-contained facilities under the same roof!



The property offers private river frontage with serene river views of the famous Ruakituri River from the rooms and grounds.





The house sits overlooking the famous Ruakituri river with 15 acres of rural land running down to the river. It is a 5-minute walk from the house through the pasture, to get to the river edge.

Okay, that looks like good accommodation, but what was the fishing like?

Look carefully in the middle to find the angler! Very promising holding water! Yes, says Maurice!



It looks somewhat bouldery with some good stretches to cast to. So what flies were suggested?

***The host even sent us a photo of his fly box..hair and copper and stoneflies of various weights and sizes.***



The river level was a bit too high at about 950 mm (the preference is 600mm to 800mm) and a flow rate of about 17 cms - best about under 14cms. The weather looked OK for our trip, as a few days earlier had some rain.

**BUT**, it had not been fished since the end of last season – so hopes were high!



## **Now it was up to us!!! – Maurice, Grant and Lindsay!!**

Our first day was spent just getting there, with just enough time for unpacking before venturing down to the river – five minutes away for an introduction of our fly rods to the Ruakituri River. That was the intention, but after the seven hours drive some drivers needed re-watering.



We did walk down there that evening, but without our fly rods, and fished this water the next morning.

So where did our fishing days take us?



Fishing the middle reaches offered some good fishing accesses to the Ruakituri River to the pools, river stretches and pocket water. However, there was clear evidence that many parts of the river had been well fished before we arrived – just three weeks into the new season.

Our first fishing days took us onto some private access water in the morning and up to Ngapakira Road, off Papuni Road, along by Smith's Bridge. Here very few fish were hooked into.

Our second day took us further up Papuni Road to the access known as Willow Flats, then returning to Smith's Bridge access in the afternoon.



Our third day took us back down Ruakituri Road to Boothham's Bridge and later returning after lunch to some private access fishing water.

Our fourth day was driving home and this was the day the fine weather ended, so we were driving home mostly in the rain.

*Lindsay and Grant*



*Maurice with his brownie.*

**Grant** = 2lb brownie;

**Lindsay** = 2 1/2lb 47cm rainbow on size 16 flashy light beaded, Pheasant tail

**Maurice** = 3.25lb 49cm brownie on size 18 unweighted purple puyam nymph.

These were our best fish caught over our three fishing days.

We could mention the other fish but will leave this out!

For other anglers interested, this accommodation is about 50km north of Wairoa or about 115km north of Napier. From Paraparaumu fours to Bayview, Napier and then about another three hours to our accommodation.

The answer is Yes, we will return. Overall, this trip could be described as exploratory for our next trip, hopefully some time in 2023. This river has been termed the number two best fly-fishing river of New Zealand.

Another enjoyable location of these mid-week trips. If interested contact Maurice, a senior Wellington Fly Fisher Club member, [maurice-fishing@xtra.co.nz](mailto:maurice-fishing@xtra.co.nz) or tel 04 2989663 (not after 8:00pm).

*With contributions from Maurice, Grant and Lindsay.*

## WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

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

**Don't forget to visit the club facebook page to keep up to date with whats going on and check out the latest photos.**

# FLY OF THE MONTH

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

## Green Beetle

The Green Beetle Fly represents the native manuka beetle which is active during summer, starting to appear in November and continues into February. They are more prolific in areas where the Manuka bushes can be found.



There are numerous different copies of the Green Beetle Fly but generally they have either a deer hair or foam body with a green wing over the back and a brown throat hackle.

Very easy to tie and given the right conditions, can be deadly.

<b>Hook</b>	Kamatsu B105 #12 or similar
<b>Body</b>	Deer Hair body or foam
<b>Hackle</b>	Brown
<b>Wing</b>	Green raffia or similar

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

The weekend club trip for September, which was proposed for the Tukituki was ultimately cancelled on advice from the owners of the Lodge, due to the fact the Tukituki River was high and dirty.

The October trip to the Mohaka was fully booked and there will be a report in the next magazine.

The November trip will be to the Rangitikei, staying at the River Valley Lodge bunk room for six of us. If you would like to come on this trip you'll need to book early.



In the new year we are looking at trips to the Manawatu, Tukituki and Whanganui Rivers, details of which will be published in the next magazine.

Strato

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



## **SPECIALS**

**Airflo Atom 9' #5 fly rod with Lab Exo 5/6  
reel and line Was \$399.99  
NOW \$249.99**

**Desolve Flow booted neoprene waders  
NOW only \$169.99**

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 November, Wainuiomata

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>

## HELPLESK

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



WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB( INC).

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