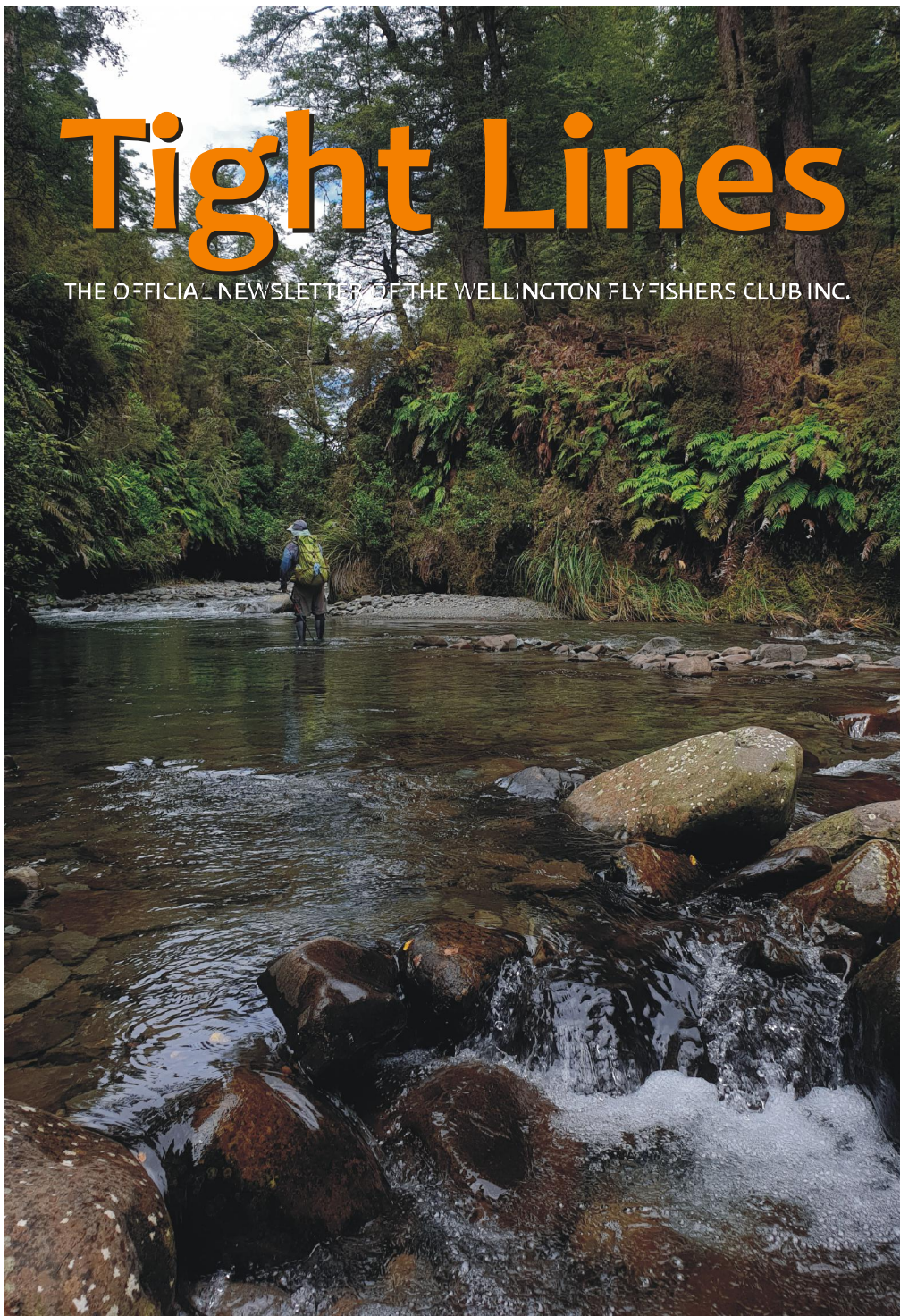


# Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLY-FISHERS CLUB INC.



# TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter  
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.  
October 2023



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**Cover:** Susi Lang (*tributary off the Mohaka*)

*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 2nd October, 7.30pm

## Opening Day Lies

Share your opening day experiences

Fishing the wet fly... Some tips

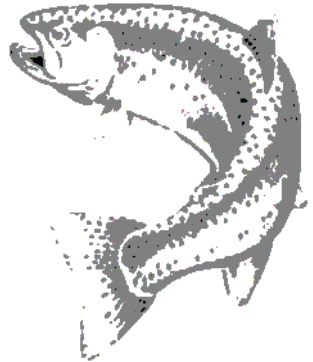
## EVENTS THIS MONTH

**Club Trip:** October 20/22 Manganui-a-te-ao (Camping Trip)  
weather permitting

**Fly Tying:** Monday 16 October - Lunker  
Buster

**On-Stream Day:**  
Saturday 28 October - Wainuiomata River  
Phone Strato 386 3740 by the Wednesday  
prior.

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



## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Mike Burrell and Spiro Harvey.

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

1st of October is a special moment in our angling calendar.

It is a chance to fish many of the streams that have been closed during the winter spawning season. A chance to re-evaluate the damage caused by the storm events of earlier in the year in terms not only of fish survival but also the environmental impact.

It is also a reminder that the 1st of October is the beginning of a new fishing year and you must have a new Fish & Game licence for the lakes and rivers other than the Taupo Region.

This last month's club trip to the Manawatu gave us an opportunity to check on the condition of one of our close fishing destinations. Local anglers we met confirmed that the river had been heavily fished by anglers from outside of the region whose own local fishing destinations have been destroyed by the storm events earlier in the year.

Nevertheless those on the club trip found pockets of fish with over twenty being hooked on the Friday afternoon and Saturday.

By late Saturday afternoon however the weather had deteriorated badly with strong winds and by Sunday conditions made fishing virtually impossible.

1st October this year falls on a Sunday and hopefully many of our club members will take the opportunity to wet a line on that day as part of tradition and we look forward to their tales to be told on the club night of 2nd October.

I have spent some time over recent weeks re-drafting the Wainuiomata access map and found that there had been significant changes with landowners passing away or selling some of their holdings.

In talking to owners it became very apparent that we need to remember that the Wainuiomata River has very few places other than the regional park areas where access is automatically available. In my discussion with the owners there appeared to be very little resentment towards fly fishermen but in virtually all cases the owners preferred to receive a call asking for permission rather than

anglers simply walking over private property either to reach the river or fish along the river simply because they've done so in the past.

A thank you at the end of a day's fishing on an owner's property goes a long way.

Good luck on the 1st.

Strato

## **POND OPEN DAY– 15 OCTOBER**

**The next OPEN DAY at the Capital Trout Centre will be on Sunday 15th October.**

Licences/registration tickets will be available at Hunting & Fishing, Petone and Capital Fishing, Ghuznee Street from Monday 2nd October.

If you are able to assist please phone Strato 3863740 so we can draw up a roster.

The tickets are collected from the two shops late on Saturday afternoon (14th) and we will then be in a position to know how many registrations we have and at what times we need the most help.

### **Spoiler alert.**

There is a lovely rainbow in the 7lb range waiting to be caught. It has already been caught twice and returned for some lucky child.



# FLYBOX RAFFLE - FUND RAISING FOR CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

First and second prizes of a flybox filled with beautifully tied flies.

Tickets \$5.00 each

**There are only 24 tickets left... Don't miss out!**

The raffle will be drawn at the October Meeting.

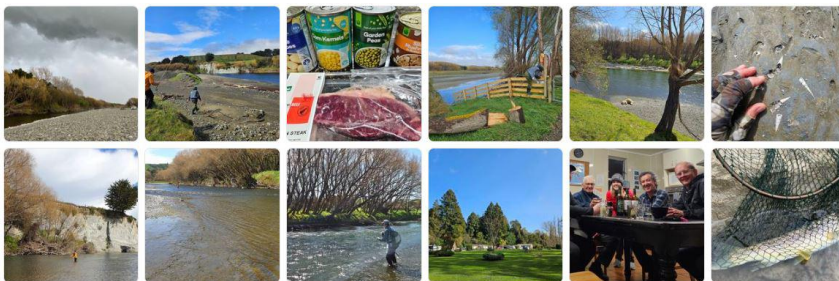
## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year ending 31 March 2024 are due and can be paid by cash at a club meeting or online to 06-0582-0030903-00. The subscription remains at \$35.00.

If any of your details have changed (address, email, phone) please download a membership form and forward it to the club.

## WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

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



## **CLUB MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER.**

The storm which ravaged a number of parts of the North Island earlier this year created a great deal of damage to waterways and the surrounding areas. The effect on trout populations will become apparent during this next fishing season and on Monday night we were given a presentation from Matt Kavermann from Wellington Fish & Game. This was to give us a review of Fish & Game's up to date information of the fishable water within the Wellington, Taranaki and Hawkes Bay areas.

Matt's presentation relied mainly on the various web sites which are available. In most cases these gave detailed graphs in terms of water levels and turbidity and also web cams but as our meeting is held at night time the web cams which usually give a visual view of the rivers were of little use due to the darkness.

However many of the rivers showed signs of stable flows over recent weeks but the unknown factor was the turbidity resulting from the huge amounts of silt in the surrounding areas each time it rains.

Nevertheless we look forward to some good fishing over the coming months.

Matt also advised us of some access issues which were apparent on the Wainuiomata River, which hopefully can be resolved.

# UPCOMING CLUB TRIPS

## October 20/22 Manganui-a-te-ao (Camping Trip) weather permitting

The Manganui-a-te-ao ('the great stream of the land') has the dubious distinction of being the the only remaining Central Plateau river that's not been diverted into the Rangipo Hydro Scheme. River access and a free camping area are available at Ruatiti Domain. About 15km of river is accessible. About 4km north of Raetihi on SH4, turn left into Ohura Road and follow it for 8km to reach the river.

A WCO was passed in 1989 to protect in particular the endangered blue duck (whio) which has a preference for clean, fast-flowing streams in the forested upper catchments of New Zealand rivers. The Manganui o te Ao River catchment is one of eight sites identified in the National Whio Recovery Plan (2007) as a priority for whio (blue duck) management.



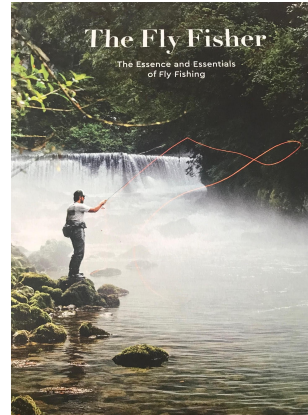


# GREAT BOOKS ABOUT FLY FISHING # 6

## **The Fly Fisher.**

### **The Essence and Essentials of Fly Fishing.**

**Berlin, Gestalten Publishing,  
2017. 258 p., Ill.**



I am glad to present the members of the Wellington Fly Fishing Club this wonderful book. It is certainly an album which deserves a great number of superlatives: It might well be the largest book about flyfishing (30 x 25 cm), an might also be the heaviest (1.6 kg); it certainly presents as beautiful. It was conceived, edited and designed by as much as 20 artists, photographers, printers and of course a number of excellent fly fishers from all around the world. The editor of Gestalten Publishing House in Berlin published it as a celebration of both the community and artistry of a sport with an ever-growing global appeal. It shows a refreshing overview on the essence of the sport, while showing great care for nature and connection with the environment. The book's message is in line with the spirit of Zane Grey as he wrote in Tales of the Southern Rivers in 1924: "If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago". Fly fishing is much more than catching as many fish, or even as big a fish as possible; this book understands fly fishing as an activity that fosters closeness to nature. It attempts to picture the fly fisher with a lifelong passion and enthusiasm for our very special sport – one which is about to nature in all its diversity.

The first part of the book - comprising 91 pages, could be called a historical and pictorial overview of the art of fly fishing from the early Roman times to the present. Every chapter holds beautiful pictures showing historical and contemporary essentials about fly fishing like rods and knots, old spools and nowadays reels, a chapter about the Hardy Brothers, who founded the most famous tackle manufactory in

the world. This is followed by a large chapter about flies and fly tying, which leads you into a section of a pictorial review with hundreds of stunning pictures of beautiful flies. It comprises special chapters about mayflies, caddisflies, stoneflies. The final section is a very helpful introduction to the different ways of casting a line. At the end of this first part of the book, you will find a pictorial and biological description of most fish species which could be caught using a fly line. The first part of the album is a book in its own right, and as beautiful as it is, could be strongly recommended to any fly fishing novice looking for an introduction into this wonderful art of fishing.



### *Florida communal Salt Water Flyfishing*

The second part of this breathtaking album can only be described as pure bliss. The 131 beautiful full-scale pictures create a symphony of fly fishing all over the world. The fly fishers in situ were always accompanied by first class photographers. The top collection of 36 pictures is centered around the work of a group of young American fly fishers who all live in one of the planet's most enticing destinations, the province of Montana, with its hundreds of rivers at the West Coast and home of the golden trout. This is followed by a portrait of Maggie

Brenneman, a famous fishing guide and conservationist, born in Denver, Colorado. She has developed fly fishing in its finest form and has traveled the world as an ambassador for her passion, combining her outdoor activities with her care for nature. She is also known to be an excellent cook; whenever she has got a good catch, she will bring it back to the barbeque. Maggie has also visited some New Zealand rivers. She still recalls the moment at a small South Island river when she came face to face with two huge eels.

The remaining part of the book takes you to the finest fly fishing-destinations around the world. It consists of a large number of chapters of various length. This part starts with taking you to the Tsimani River in Bolivia where they fish for the famous Golden Dorado. St. Brandon's Atolls in Mauritius also offer beautiful fly fishing opportunities. The Seychelle Islands provide unique salt water fly fishing adventures. In Tanzania, Africa, fishing is famous for the Tiger Fish, one of the most aggressive predators of the world. Florida's saltwater fishing for the Tarpon is extremely popular and spectacular. Japan is presented here because it has developed the Tencara method of fly fishing. The Pindus Mountains in Greece and Albania offer the fly fisher the rough valleys of the Vjora River. In Argentina, the best dry-fly fishing is to be had in the Valley of Rio Grande. Chile's fly fishing paradise is situated in Patagonia. Finally, the book recommends a wilderness voyage to fish the rivers of Kamchatka in Siberia.

Even if you have little chance to travel to these extraordinary destinations, you will certainly love that book for the most beautiful photographs which will help to picture the beauty of our great sport.

The book offers the E-mail addresses of all the photographers and artists who have contributed to this wonderful book.

The Fly Fisher is still available in second hand book shops or at gestalten publishing house Berlin at a price between 20 and 48 EUR. |

*Rolf W.Brednich*

# FLY OF THE MONTH

Fly tying is sponsored by **Fishscene**



**Monday 16th October, 7.30pm** - Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

## Lunker Buster

In the early days of my competitive fishing, I received great support from Roy Cotter, from Pahiatua, who not only assisted in suggesting suitable competition venues on the Manawatu River but supplied me with a number of flies. These included a pattern which he had developed himself which he had aptly named the Lunker Buster.

The word Lunker is an Americanism denoting a large fish and while it certainly catches its share of trophies, also works well on small browns and rainbows.



The fly has worked well for me on many occasions since that day either as a single fly or in a larger version used in tandem with a smaller nymph. The fly has also been very successful when tied as a larger pattern on 10's and 12's in lakes and large rivers fished as a dragonfly pattern or even swung downstream on a wet line and slowly retrieved.

I suspect my current version differs somewhat from Roy's original for which I apologise for still using his distinct name.

<b>Hook</b>	Kamisan B 175 #12 or #14
<b>Tail</b>	Pheasant tail fibres
<b>Abdomen</b>	Black tying thread
<b>Rib</b>	Copper wire
<b>Thorax</b>	Dubbed hare's fur with plenty of guard fibres over lead wire
<b>Wing case</b>	Pheasant tail fibres or Christmas tinsel for flash back

## **Tying Instructions**

- Tie in 3 or 4 tail fibres no more than 10mm extending from the bend
- Tie in copper rib at bend
- Use the tying thread to create cigar shaped body from bend of the hook to 2/3 of the way up the shank.
- Rib body with copper wire (three to four turns) and tie off.
- Tie in pheasant tail wing case so that the tippets are long enough to form the wing and also to be folded under to create legs.
- Wrap lead wire to form thorax and dub in hares fur.
- Fold wing case to the head and tie off but don't trim.
- Fold wing case tippets under the body and tie off.
- Cement head.

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





**AIRFLOW ATOM**  
**Flyfishing Rod and Reel Combo**  
**Rods 5's, 6's & 8's**  
**Were \$399.99 NOW \$199.99**

**Fishing Licence BONUS**  
**Free polarised fishing glasses**  
**on purchases of full season fishing licences**

**Offer valid to 31st October 2023**  
**or while stocks last**  
**Limit 1 pair of sunglasses per licence**  
**Ts & Cs apply**

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 28 October - 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>

## 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 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 2023 - 31 MARCH 2024

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>	<b>Strato Cotsilinis</b>	<b>386 3740</b>
Past President	Paul Baker	970 2595
Vice President	John Gamble	027 517 5825
Secretary	Heather Millar	386 3049
Treasurer	Carmen Cotsilinis	027 611 8088
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
Committee	Rod Lawson	021 119 4115



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