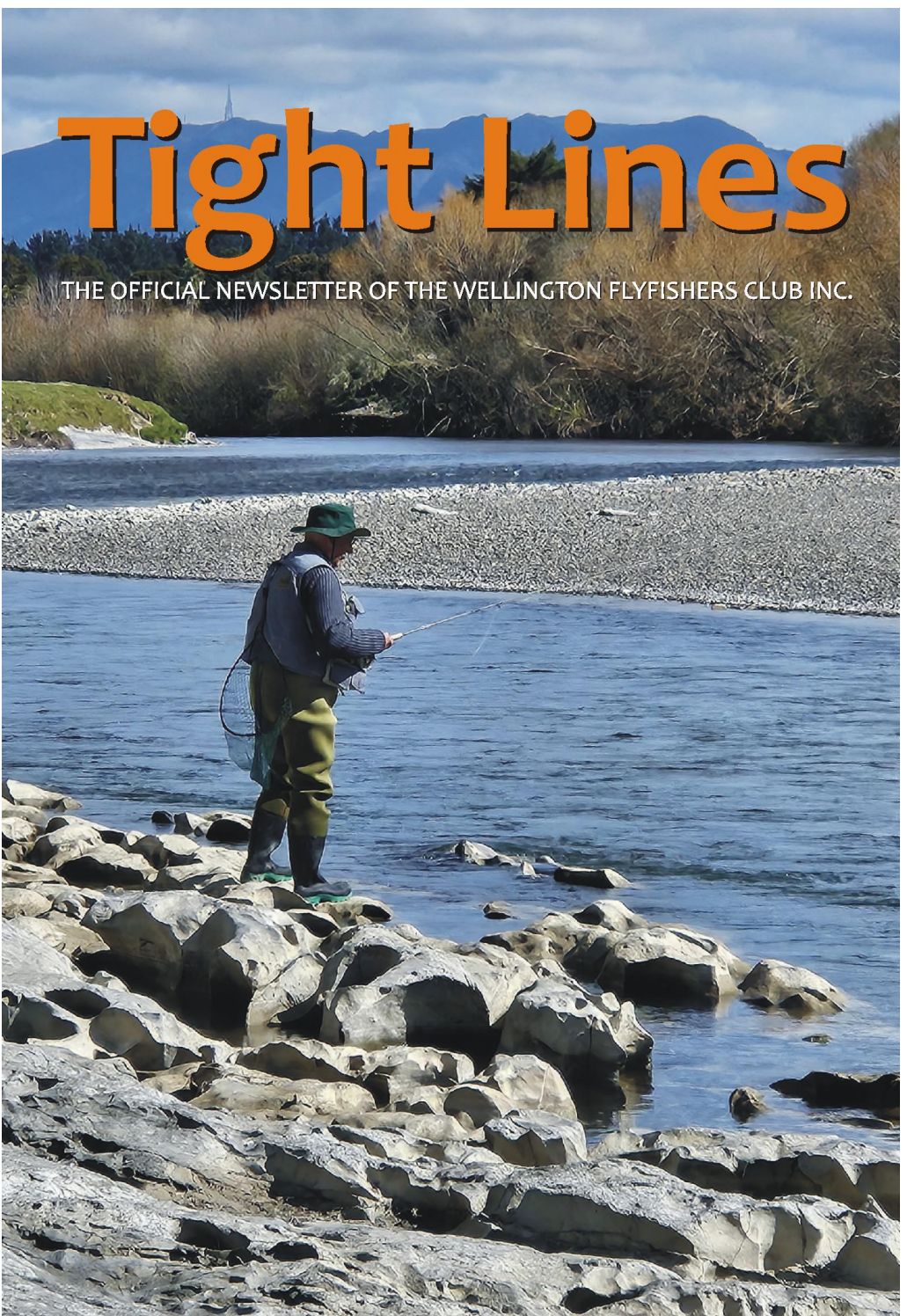


# Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



# TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter  
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.  
May 2025



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**Cover:** Susi Lang (*Strato fishing the Manawatu River at Oringi*)  
*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 5th May 2025, 7.30pm**

## **Annual General Meeting**

-

## **Presentation of Trophies**

-

Our guest speaker is **Miles Nolte**, a flyfishing and outdoor media expert showing his film "Silent Spotter" and responding to questions

## **EVENTS THIS MONTH**

**Club Trip:** 16-17-18 May - Manawatu (to be confirmed)

**Fly Tying:** Monday 19 May (7.30pm) - Orange Rabbit  
*for details see Fly of the Month...p12*

**On-Stream Day:** Saturday 24 May - Hutt River  
Phone Strato 386 3740 by the Wednesday prior  
*Remember, the season closes for fishing on the Wainuiomata River on 30th April*

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

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to: Russell Pilcher and Martin O'Grady



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Another year has gone by and the club has continued to enjoy good support from members

Club trips have been well patronised as have club nights with some excellent speakers.

Club membership remains strong as has the club's financial position as shown by the annual accounts.

Many thanks must go to the committee and other club members who assist in promoting and organising the club's activities.

It has been noticeable that we have had interest from a number of young members who wish to take up the sport and perhaps this is an area we can develop in the future.

At the Inter-Club Fly Tying Competition one of our young members competed on behalf of the club.

The Club has re-re-registered under the new Incorporated Societies Act with a new Constitution which followed strongly on how we have operated in the past.

We are always looking for new ideas and with many of our committee members being active for many, many years we need club members to bring forward their ideas and form part of our committee for the future.

I look forward to another very active year for the club and thank you for your support in the past.

*Strato*

## WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

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



**BASIC FUNDAMENTALS**

- 1) Ability to cast
- 2) Understanding the quarry
- 3) Choice of tackle
- 4) Streamcraft



# **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

The club's annual photographic competition will be held in conjunction with the AGM at the meeting on Monday 5th May 2025

Bring along your photos taken in the last 12 months with a fly fishing theme or scene and you may be the winner.

Photos may also be considered for the front cover of our magazine for the next twelve months.

Make sure you bring the photos early on the night to enable them to be displayed properly. Please put your name and contact phone number on the back of your photo.

The photos will be judged by club members at the AGM.

## **WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC A.G.M.**

**Monday 5th May 2025**

### **AGENDA**

Welcome:

Guest Speaker's Presentation

Judging of Photographic Competition

### **AGM**

Apologies:

Minutes of the previous AGM 6th May 2024

Matters Arising

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

General Business

Election of Committee

Prize Giving

**WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2024**

INCOME

3,920	Subscriptions	4,320.00
560	Raffles	573.00
1,011	Interest	1,129.90
1,533	Auction	1,486.42
575	Magazine Advertising	550.00
677	Wellington High School Course	0.00
9	Miscellaneous	7.00
100	Donation	4.00
150	Equipment Sales	0.00

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8,535

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8,070.32

LESS EXPENDITURE

589	Insurance	586.50
968	Printing and Postage (Magazine only)	969.46
58	Engraving of Trophies	106.00
3,220	Rent	3,165.08
0	NZFFA Subscription	200.00
427	Catering and Social	375.87
230	P O Box Rental	280.00
210	Website Costs	214.47
500	Raffle Vouchers	550.00
15	"Biggest Fish" Vouchers	0.00

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6,217

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6,447.38

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**\$2,318**

**SURPLUS (LOSS) FOR YEAR**

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**\$1,622.94**

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# WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

31.3.2024

### ASSETS

9,160	National Bank - Cheque Account	9,591.50
1,658	National Bank - Call Account	1,694.72
14,894	National Bank - Fixed Deposits	15,789.83
4,026	National Bank - Capital Trout Centre Account	1,735.77
612	National Bank - Competition Account	625.25

30,350

29,437.07

### LESS LIABILITIES

203	Sundry Creditors	124.50
71	Sundry Creditors - Pond Account	0.00
570	Subscriptions in Advance	390.00

844

514.50

\$29,506

### NET ASSETS

\$28,922.57

### MEMBERS' FUNDS

22,621	Balance 31 March 2024	24,938.61
2,318	Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year	1,622.94
24,939		26,561.55

### RESERVES

3,955	Capital Trout Centre Reserve Account	1,735.77
612	Competition Reserve Account	625.25
4,567		2,361.02

\$29,506

\$28,922.57

**WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC**

**CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2024

2,461 OPENING BALANCE 3,958.12

INCOME

5,683	Sponsorship Fish & Game	5,069.66
3,948	Open Days and Functions	3,582.40
664	Member Donations	835.00
134	Interest	88.25
1,000	Grant - Pharazyn Trust	1,000.00
670	Raffles	0.00
588	Wellington High School Course	697.80
91	Auctions	0.00
2,000	Donation	0.00
0	Grant - Pub Charities	1,500.00

14,778 12,773.11

LESS EXPENSES

12,008	Fish Purchases	11,969.66
0	Fish Food	280.05
1,004	Clean-Up Costs	653.66
52	Signs	0.00
71	Stationery & Photocopy	77.97
0	Pumps	1,739.11
149	Nets	0.00
0	Repairs	220.01
0	Barley Straw	52.00

13,284 14,992.46

\$3,955 CLOSING BALANCE \$1,738.77



**WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC**

**COMPETITION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2024**

595	<u>OPENING BALANCE</u>	611.55
16	Interest	13.70
<hr/>		<hr/>
611		625.25
	<u>Less:</u>	
0	Bank Fees	0.00
<hr/>		<hr/>
0		0.00
<hr/>		<hr/>
<u>\$611</u>	<u>CLOSING BALANCE</u>	<u>\$625.25</u>

# CADDIS OF THE TONGARIRO

## by Braedan de Lange

The following is an excerpt from an article Braedan wrote for the fly dressers guild in the UK on Caddis for the Tongariro.

Unfortunately the full article which includes fly tying instructions was too large to insert fully but can be downloaded from a link included in the emailed copy of this newsletter.



Every year just like clockwork, as the regular fishing season here winds down in April I can almost guarantee a message will be sent. It will either be from myself or from a mate but will be some sort of iteration of 'have you started tying yet?'. What follows is usually a spate of photos showing all the glitz and glam of hooks dressed in an assortment of flash and tinsel only appropriate for Winter fishing. Inevitably these conversations lead to accommodation being booked and partners convinced that a lads' weekend is just what is needed as we race off to try and fool just one, although preferably more, of the tens of thousands of rainbows that race up the Tongariro every

Winter. Of note as well is the presence of some very large brown trout. While these are generally found in the warmer months, it is not unheard of to also catch them during Winter, although they are fewer and far between.

These Winter runs draw people from all over the world and can almost be considered a rite of passage for Kiwi anglers, lured to the area on the promise of a river overflowing with thousands of fish. However, it usually does not take long to learn that even though the fish are there, the numbers does not make it an easy game. Until you get depth and drift right, it does not matter what you tie on the end of your line. The standard Tongariro rig fished is a very heavy nymph, often referred to as a 'bomb', with an egg or natural nymph tied off the back of that, under an almost comically large indicator. The egg or glo-bug is generally considered to be the gold standard of rainbow trout-enticing goodness on this river. Personally, I have no issues with fishing egg patterns, also known as 'trout emergers', and have enjoyed many a day whooping and hollering in excitement as I net a fish with one of these little orange or red balls stuck in its mouth. However, the more I have learned about this fishery, the more I have come to realise the importance of caddis. Mostly this realisa-tion has come from starting to use a heavy version of the 'Holy Grail' nymph as my bomb fly and finding that just as many fish were taking this fly as were taking the egg pattern. The real eye opener was a photo sent to me a short time later after a large flood which showed hundreds of caddis stuck in debris on the shore. By all accounts this was the situation all along the riverbank, with thousands of these grub-like nymphs washed up waiting to be picked up by hungry birds.

Caddis can be as easy or as hard to tie as you want them to be, but I think the two most important things about tying them for the Tongariro is size and colour. One of the first things that an angler will notice about the caddis in New Zealand is their size. For most of the rivers I fish there, if fishing caddis flies, they will be a size 18 through to 14. On the Tongariro though, fish will happily take a size 12 or 10 tied on Kamasan B110 hooks. Secondly is the range in colours of the caddis. In a single handful of them, I have seen them ranging in colour from almost white to light olive and onwards to

dark green. Having a range of sizes and colours can make or break a trip and it is always good to be able mix and match.

My preference is for a light-coloured Holy Grail 'Bomb' with a dark unweighted caddis nymph behind it or vice versa. The bodies of both are made with Semperfli Sparkle Dubbing, which gives the patterns a lustre and glint that makes them stand out just ever so slightly from the rest of the naturals in the water but is not super flashy. Alternatively, I use natural materials like hare or squirrel fur. The light and dark contrast between the head and body mimics the natural colouration of the caddis and is one of the key trigger points for these flies. I use a dark coloured dubbing for this or Semperfli Straggle String for some movement and a bit more flash.

A quick look around social media and you will no doubt find a plethora of glorious caddis pupa and nymph patterns, from the hyper realistic – and I recognise that these can be for display rather than fishing – to the simple and everything in between. I prefer fishing simple patterns on this river, ones which can be tied quickly with minimal fuss and will catch fish. The reality of Winter nymphing on this river is that one can expect to lose a decent number of flies. As you are fishing these as close to the bottom as possible, you can expect to lose flies to snagging rocks and branches, as well as to hard fighting fish in strong currents. The following step by step instructions are for the Sparkle Dubbing and Straggle String caddis and a variation on the Holy Grail that I tie for the Tongariro. They are by no means difficult flies and well within the competencies of a beginner...

*Braedan runs a YouTube channel with instructional fly-tying videos featuring a range of different patterns, which can be found at South of North Fly Fishing*

<https://www.youtube.com/@southofnorthflyfishing>

# FLY OF THE MONTH

Fly tying is sponsored by [Fishscene](#)



**Monday 19th May, 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 the Orange Rabbit completes the basic selection. An easy pattern to tie that works particularly well in Taupo's rivers.

### Materials

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

- 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).



*Winter is rapidly approaching  
We have a full range of Desolve and Simms waders*

*Special on 8 weight Primal Rod, Reel and Line  
combo sets*

*Full range of Fly Tying materials including Glow Bug  
yarns*

*All flies now available at \$4.50 each*

Other than for specials, Club discount 10% is available on  
flyfishing purchases 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 24 May - Hutt River.

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, 8 Te Puni Street, Petone, 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>



## HELPPESK

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 14006, Kilbirnie, Wellington 6241, 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 2024 - 31 MARCH 2025

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	027 472 3455
Committee	Rod Lawson	021 119 4115
Committee	Peter Irwin	021-499-582



**WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB (INC).**  
PO Box 14006, Kilbirnie, Wellington 6241, New Zealand