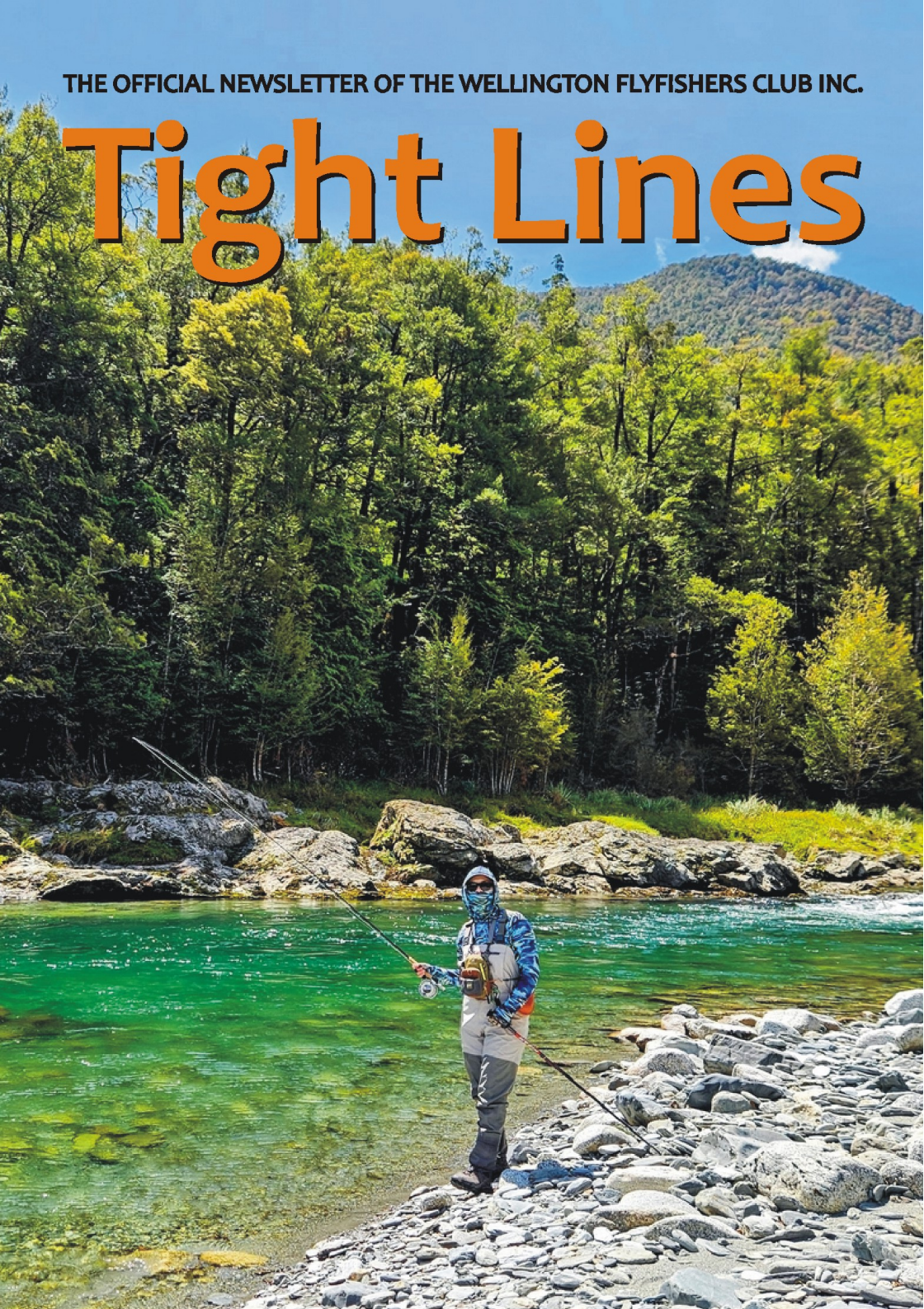


THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

Tight Lines



TIGHT LINES

The official newsletter
of the Wellington Flyfishers Club inc.
September 2026



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Cover: Brian Benson (Susi Lang fishing the Grey River November 2025). *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 September 2026 - 7.30 pm

Tararua Tramping Club Rooms
4 Moncrief St, Mount Victoria, Wellington

CLUB AUCTION

This is the major fund raising event for the Club
Items can be viewed from 7.00pm
Auction starts at 7.30pm
Items must be paid for on the night
(cash or online payment)

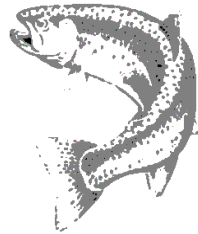
EVENTS THIS MONTH

Club Trip: September 18-19-20 - Turangi

Fly Tying: Monday 21 September 7.30pm
Bead Head Hare and Copper Nymph
for details see Fly of the Month...p8

On-Stream Day: No On-Stream day for September
Phone Strato 386 3740 by the Wednesday prior

New Fish & Game licences - needed from 1 October 2026



CLUB MEMBERSHIP SUBS

1 April 2026 - 31 March 2027

These are now due for the year ending 31 March 2027.

Download a renewal of membership form from our website, update your details and scan to wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com.

Please pay online.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As I sit here feeling cold, struggling to think of something to write, I am reminded of a verse I learnt as a child.

Can't think,

Brain numb,

Inspiration won't come,

Poor ink, bad pen,

That's all

Amen

Luckily, I am adulting today and typing rather than writing.

The first open day was held Sunday 9 August and despite the very cold wet day about 65 children braved the weather to try fly fishing for trout. I always enjoy watching the smallest child catch the biggest fish. Thank you to the hardy club members who came to help. An extra big thank you to Carmen who gutted most of the fish.

Discussions are underway at committee meetings as to how we can encourage those that are able, to donate more, and how we might be able to accept payments other than by cash. We are very grateful to Fish and Game for the support.

The September meeting is the Club auction. Hopefully many of you have sorted through and donated gear you no longer need, thus making space for replacement gear. Please come and support the club on the night.

Despite the cold weather I am sure some of you have been fishing the Taupo region. I look forward to reading stories and seeing photos in the Club magazine.

For those not able to get out fishing at the moment I suggest buying some tickets to the Rise Film Festival. The evening in Wellington is Thursday 3 September at the Penthouse Cinema in Brooklyn.

Tight Lines

Heather Miller

FLY BOX RAFFLE (Reminder)

The club was donated another fly box to raffle in July.
It will be drawn when all tickets have been bought.
The fly box is full of approx. 96 weighted nymphs and approx. 96 unweighted nymphs.

All proceeds go to the Capital Trout Centre. \$5 a ticket.

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

The next Open Day will be on Sunday 4 October

Advise your friends and family. Tickets/Registration forms will be at Hunting & Fishing, Te Puni Street and at Capital Fishing Ghuznee Street from Tuesday 22nd September.

Please phone Strato and indicate your interest if you can come and assist on the day.

CLUB TRIP REPORT AUGUST

Those who went on the July club trip to Turangi struck very low and clear water conditions and with the exception of the Hinemaiaia, which produced a few fresh and recovering fish, there was not much success from the other rivers. We were hoping for much better conditions on the August trip, but lack of rain over the preceding weeks, simply produced a repeat of the July trip.



A few fish were caught last thing in the afternoon and very early morning but we hardly ever saw an angler showing off their success.

There was however some evidence that there were plenty of fish in the Tongariro River with one pool showing approximately 30, to those with keen eyesight, but they refused to accept the flies that were cast to them. Once again bright sunlight, very low and clear water conditions was obviously a major factor in the lack of success.



There was however a significant number of soft takes which lasted but a few seconds before spitting the hook, confirming that the trout were not in the mood for aggressive strikes.

The group did manage to land seven fish but the average weight of approximately 2 1/2 pound confirmed the continuing reduction in weight that the Taupo fishery is currently experiencing.

The fish that were caught however were in very good condition and just great for the smoker.

Hopefully the September trip will be more successful.

The accommodation on this trip was at the Tongariro River Retreat which provides basic accommodation in comfortable bunk rooms and excellent kitchen facilities at a low tariff and is a good option for the club to use.

RAIN, RODS AND REELS

Our First Open Day of 2026!

It was a cold, wet Sunday morning that greeted us for the first Open Day of the 2026 season at the Capital Trout Pond — and it absolutely teemed with rain right through until early afternoon. But that didn't stop the keen anglers of Wellington!

Around 65 children and their families braved the weather to try their luck at catching a trout. Some were seasoned regulars who've been coming to our Open Days for years, while for many others it was their very first taste of trout fishing. And the effort paid off — everyone caught a fish! Today's quota was two per angler, with fish ranging in size from a tiddler at 180gm up to a hefty 370gm.

Our young fishers ranged just as widely, from age 2 right through to 11 — proof that trout fishing really is for everyone.



A huge thank you to all the families for your generosity today. Every donation goes straight back into running the pond — whether that's fish food, keeping the water pump maintained, or helping fund our annual clean-up.

See you all at the next Open Day on 4th October 2026

Don't forget — you'll need to register for your one-day licence beforehand, available from either Hunting and Fishing in Petone, or Capital Fishing on Ghuznee St (open Tuesday to Saturday). Registration opens two weeks beforehand.

FLYTYING NIGHT – 17 AUGUST

The Flytying night was a chance for club members to tie the Scotch Poacher. This fly has long been a favorite for those fishing in low light conditions and moonlit nights.



Once again, a good turnout of members including a couple of junior members, soon found that the fly was not that difficult to tie and with the help of experienced tiers assisting, soon produced some very acceptable specimens.

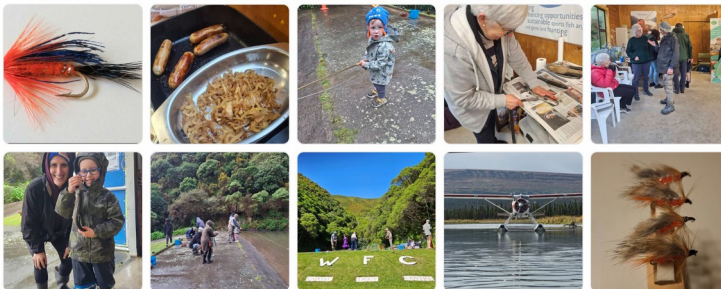


With Spring just around the corner next month, our budding tiers will be tying the bead head Hare & Copper, another top listed fly in most anglers' fly boxes.

WFF FACEBOOK PAGE

Checkout the latest news on the club facebook page

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



FLY OF THE MONTH

Fly tying is sponsored by [Fishscene](#)



Monday 21 September 2026, 7.30pm - Tararua Tramping Club
Locker Room (Access through side door on north side of building)

BEAD HEAD 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.

Materials

Hook	TMC 3769 size 8-18
Thread	Danville 6/0 black
Rib	Copper 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 fly-tying meetings please let Strato know (386 3740).



Waders Galore

Many brands and styles available

Fishfighter PVC waders - \$99.99

Riverworks unbooted waders - \$349.99

Desolve unbooted waders - \$499.99

Desolve neoprene booted waders - \$249.99

Desolve Boots - \$299.99

Hunting & Fishing are arranging an evening with

Manic Tackle likely to be in October

More details once we have confirmed

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 – No On-Stream day for September.

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>

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 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 2026 – 31 MARCH 2027

Full member or family membership	Junior membership	Joining fee	Overseas Newsletter (Email only)
\$35	no fee.	\$10	\$35

Enquiries 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

President	Heather Miller	386 3049
Past President	Strato Cotsilinis	386 3740
Secretary	Rod Lawson	021 119 4115
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	Julia Gallagher	021 0880 4115
Committee	Andrew Morrow	021 810 026



WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB (INC).
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