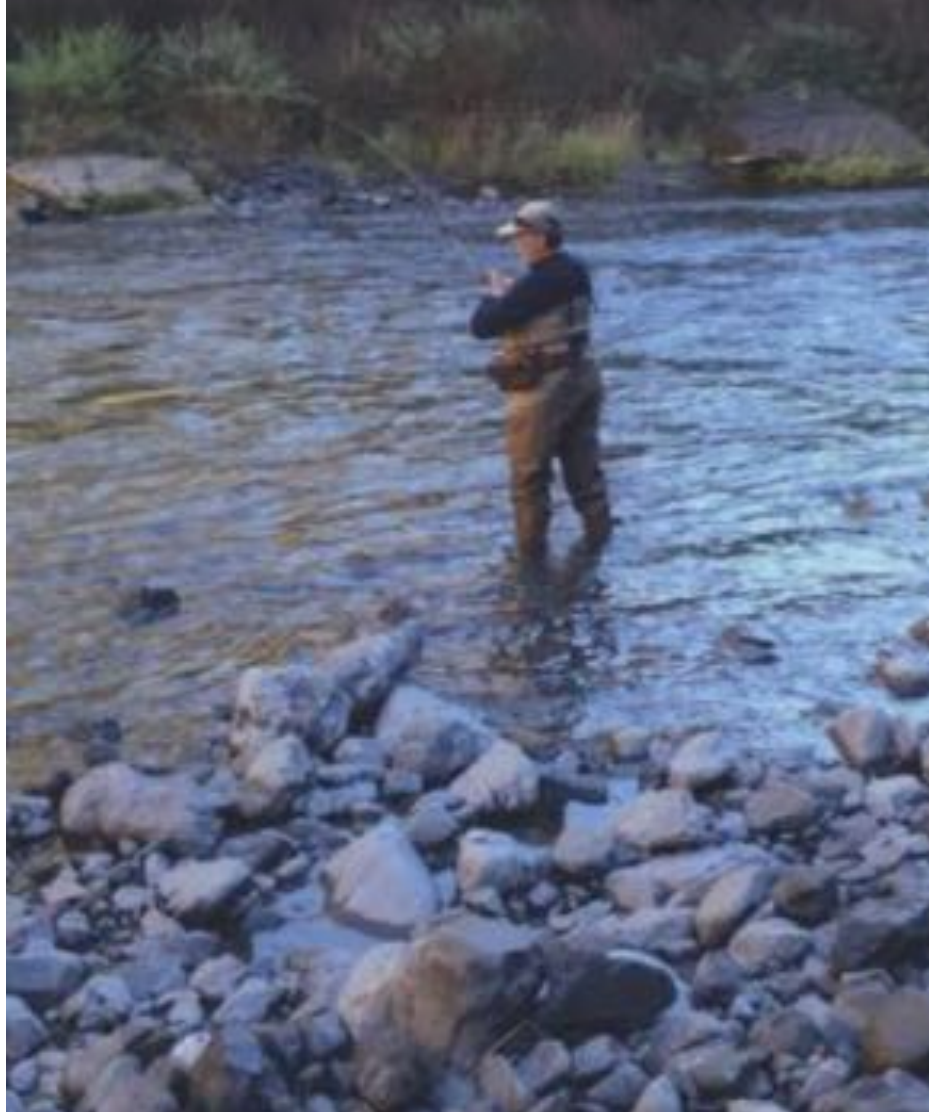


Tight Lines

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.



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SEPTEMBER 2017

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Cover: Fish on - Whakarekau river –Rangitikei (Robyn Gray)

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 4th September

7.30pm, Tararua Tramping Club Rooms, 4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria

Preparing for the new Season, Tackle & Prospects

A club meeting is usually held on the first Monday of every month (except January) even if the Monday is a Public Holiday (Waitangi Day, Easter Monday, Queen's Birthday or Opening Day)

Events This Month

Club Trip:	16-17 th
Fly Tying:	18 th
On-Stream Day:	9 th
Casting practice:	Sundays
Capital trout Centre:	3 rd Sept

Future Club Meetings:



New Members:

Alistair Brown

Betty Mani

Brennan Martin

President's Report

Our very wet winter has meant that our local streams have been unfishable for much of the time and therefore much of our energies have been aimed at the Taupo region and in particular around Turangi.

Although they have also experienced their share of rain, the ability of the power authorities to partly control the flow in the Tongariro River has meant that the river has been fishable for most of the time.

This last weekend was a typical case in point where despite heavy rain on the Friday night and Saturday night, the river stayed quite fishable throughout the whole weekend.

The new season for our local rivers is now not too far away and licences are currently available online. Check to make sure that you pick the category which suits you best.

Many thanks to the fifteen club members who turned up for the annual pond clean up at the Capital Trout Centre. We made a decision not to attempt to remove the large amount of gravel which came down during one of the winter flood events, which now occupies approximately one-third of the back pond. However there is a continual flow from the stream through the gravel area and we have been watching with interest as a number of trout have been attempting to spawn in this artificial stream.

Our shipment of 1,000 fish has now arrived and they are acclimatising in the front pond ready for our **Open Day on Sunday 3rd September**. This is a great opportunity to bring along those children or grandchildren, as success is assured and they may even catch one of the big ones which have remained over from the previous year (4lb – 5lb).

On the political front, Bryce Johnson has retired after over 30 years as the chief executive for Fish & Game and there is no doubt his strong advocacy has been at the forefront of water quality and trout habitat issues over this period, for which the angling community owes a great deal of debt.

Bryce's replacement is Martin Taylor who has wide experience in the corporate sector including as chief executive of the Aged Care Association and a past Chair of Wellington Fish & Game Council. Chairman Lyndsay Lyons describes Martin as 'the right person for this demanding role, a highly qualified experienced leader and politically astute'.

Welcome Martin.

Strato



Hunting & Fishing

N E W Z E A L A N D

NEW

Sage Foundation

6 or 8 weight Entry level

Combo

Sage 2250 or 2280 reel

Rio backing with Rio Gold

WF Floating fly line

SPECIAL

Riverworks Primax Neoprene

Waders Only \$179.99

The Flyfishing Experts

Hutt Valley Hunting & Fishing NZ
444 Cuba Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt, P O Box 33 206, Petone,
Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500 Facsimile: 0064-4-589 9520

Helpful Links for Wellington Fly Fishers



189 Taupahi Rd **Turangi**
Tackle Shop open most mornings by 7.30am, Cafe 8am
Email info@creeltackle.com
www.creeltackle.com or www.turangifyfish.com
PH 07 3867929



<http://wellington.fishandgame.org.nz>



www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz



www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington



www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz



www.fishscene.co.nz

FISHING THE TONGARIRO

Many anglers have a love-hate relationship with the Tongariro and the other rivers entering Lake Taupo. Those that like small stream fishing and in particular novice anglers, are often put off by the high volume of water which the Tongariro carries and the large number of anglers who fish the river in winter, especially on the weekends.



Since 2005 the Taupo fishery has suffered due to a number of climactic events and has struggled to perform up to its previous acclaimed levels, which have attracted anglers world-wide.

This year however, good levels of winter rainfall and what has obviously been a good

feeding summer, has resulted in good numbers of well-conditioned fish entering the system and being available to the anglers.

Strong water currents and angler numbers still deter many novice anglers but it is becoming increasingly evident that you don't have to fish the big pools and the long runs to be successful.

Pockets of fish are being regularly found in areas away from the main current in braided low water flows and eddies which anglers often pay little attention to.

Recently on a club trip over 20 fish were hooked by club anglers in a pocket not much bigger than your dining room table, providing excellent sport.

The secret is to find spots where the trout can rest away from the currents to conserve their energies for their spawning trip up stream. Every back eddy and pocket is worth a flick and you may be surprised at the results.

The water battle in election 2017: a beginner's guide

By Nicole Buxeda

<https://thespinoff.co.nz/politics/21-08-2017/the-water-battle-in-election-2017-a-beginners-guide/>

Freshwater is fast becoming one of the hottest topics ahead of the September vote. What are the main policy differences when it comes to ownership, pricing and exportation? New Zealand truly is the land of milk, honey – and water. Water is significant in our childhood memories of the beach and river adventures, in our tourism promotions, and in our cultural makeup. Fuelled by vocal public sentiment, political parties are seizing upon water pricing and bottled water export as flagship environmental policy issues. Three main questions arise in regards to freshwater policies – freshwater ownership, freshwater pricing and freshwater exportation.

Who owns freshwater?

In common law, freshwater can't be owned, but this can be altered by an Act of Parliament. The Water and Soil Conservation Act 1967 vested the sole right to dam, divert, take or use natural water in the Crown, and the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) preserved this right. Resource consents are required when proposing to take, use, dam or divert fresh water, and the RMA specifies that resource consents are neither real nor personal property.

Traditional Māori views of water revolve around the concept of kaitiakitanga and guardianship, rather than ownership. A 2005 report from the Ministry for the Environment (Wai Ora: Report of the Sustainable Water Programme of Action Consultation Hui) states Māori consider “they have both customary and Treaty interests in freshwater, that freshwater should be considered a taonga in terms of the Treaty, and that ... Treaty, ownership and relationship issues must be addressed before any major changes to water management can be considered.”

The National Party has always held firmly that no one owns the water. By sticking to this view National has avoided Treaty processes arising regarding freshwater. The



Labour Party's stance is that everyone owns the water. This will raise questions of rights under the Treaty, which Labour welcomes. The Green Party thinks that “water is a public good” and should be in public ownership of water. New Zealand First firmly believes that “as a country we own the water, in the same way as we own in

common the air and the environment which we're in". The Māori Party is circumspect, likely based on its current coalition position, however, it is safe to say they will be in agreement with the 2005 Wai Ora position that Māori have customary and Treaty rights in freshwater. The Opportunities Party has said that they will give Māori rights to freshwater, and consider resolving issues with regards to the Treaty as a precondition to establishing a commercial model for water.

Bottling and exporting freshwater

Currently, a company must apply for a resource consent to extract freshwater, but no resource consent is necessary to bottle from a reticulated supply. National is waiting for a report from the Ministry of the Environment's water allocation technical advisory group. This report won't be produced before the election in September. However, National has come out strongly and said that they won't impose a moratorium on the exportation of water. Labour would support exportation with a royalty imposed. The Greens would ban all new water bottling consents until regulation is in place to ensure priority is given to supplying clean drinking water for all New Zealanders. Following implementation of regulations, the Green Party would allow export of water for commercial purposes and would impose levies on this use and exportation. NZ First and the Māori Party supported the moratorium on bottled water exports. TOP's position on bottling, outside charging for commercial bottling, is uncertain.

Charging for freshwater

Currently, there are no charges for taking and using freshwater for domestic or commercial use, for exportation, or for agriculture. Water rates and water metering fees are charges on use of the water infrastructure, not charges for the freshwater itself. National is open to charging as long as it is a "fair system" and is waiting on a report from the governmental technical advisory group looking into water allocation and pricing before formulating anything more concrete. The Labour Party would impose a royalty on commercial consumption of water. They have not indicated the rate of the royalty, but have committed to setting this through consultation. Revenue from royalties is planned to be shared between councils and iwi.

The Green Party would put an immediate 10 cents per litre levy on still or sparkling bottled water, with revenue going to mana whenua and the wider community through local councils. The Green Party have also proposed a broad levy on all commercial uses of water. NZ First would put a royalty on drinking water exports. The Māori Party has more of a focus on ensuring clean and healthy waterways, and their position on charging for water use is uncertain. TOP supports charging market price for commercial use of water and auctioning of future resource consents. They plan to use these funds to establish regional Nature Improvement Funds which will allow investment by Councils in environmentally beneficial projects.

Criticisms of water pricing policies



Water pricing is definitely proving to be one of the hot topics in this election. National is (deliberately or not) pushing debate on this out by delaying on announcing a more detailed policy until they hear back from the working group appointed to discuss this issue. Not letting this stop them criticising other parties' policies, National has hit back hard against Labour's policies and to a lesser extent the Green's policies. National has said that the policy of imposing a levy on all commercial users is too broad and uncertain, the price that would be levied is uncertain, and queries whether this levy would include hydroelectricity usage. The agricultural sector worries about the impact of such a levy on farmers and their communities, and the price of any outputs which are subject to such a levy resting ultimately upon the consumer. They are concerned that water charges would make goods (including food) not only more expensive domestically but also lower international competitiveness of New Zealand products.

National continues to cite statistics about the amount of water being extracted for international bottling purposes being so low as to constitute a drop in the bucket, however this is not the point – the public sentiment is not about the quantity or the statistics, it is the sense that something precious in New Zealand is being exploited for commercial gain without any benefits going back to New Zealand communities or back into the water bodies being extracted from. There are lessons to be learnt from global trends tending toward more nationalistic thinking. We need to rethink our position on those making a commercial profit from freshwater resources.

This issue has been influenced by the debate about the quality of water and the swimmability of rivers, and the policies which link these two issues together and allocate funds from exporting water to directly clean up rivers will likely strike a

chord with New Zealanders – at least those New Zealanders who are not involved in agriculture.

Your vote here?

Your approach to freshwater policies should essentially boil down to the weight you give various factors. One side says that New Zealand attracting foreign investment in regards to our natural resources, and avoidance of further claims in the Waitangi Tribunal, is important. That side probably agrees with people involved in agriculture in any capacity. However, it's important to consider the parallels between the Foreshore and Seabed debate and the Freshwater debate.

The other side wants to see levies acting as environmental and economic tools to attempt to re-incentivise and re-distribute profits arising from natural resource exploitation, a focus on regional infrastructure and water quality improvement, and an acknowledgement of the Māori role in this future. Resolution of Treaty issues involves an uncertain level of commitment, time, financial investment and social and political capital, although at some stage we will need to resolve these issues and pushing the boat out on this will not make the process disappear.

There is a third side, one that focuses on the claim that New Zealanders deserve to benefit from others commercially using our natural resources, regardless of Treaty issues or sustainability/conservation. We'll leave you to decide which set of factors are most important to you.



An advertisement for fishing flies. The background is a dark, moody image of a fish and a fly. Text on the right says 'The Circadas are here!' and 'Attractors - the first choice of professional guides'. Below that, it says 'We have over 10,000 summer flies in stock - attractors - pheasant tails - stoneflies'. The website 'www.fishingflies.co.nz' is prominently displayed in the center. At the bottom, it says 'Free flies with reward points - Free post within NZ - cheapest flies available - quality guaranteed'. On the right side of the ad, there is a small image of a person fishing.

CLUB AUCTION NOVEMBER MEETING

Now is the time to look through your fishing gear, books etc which are now surplus to current requirements but would be very useful for other anglers.

Items can be sold on your account with a commission to the club, or as a donation to club funds. The October magazine will have a specific auction form for you to list the items which will then be forwarded to Gordon.

MEETING VENUE (TARARUA TRAMPING CLUB ROOMS)

4 Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria

From motorway:

Follow Vivian Street and turn left onto Cambridge Terrace, then first right into Elizabeth Street at the next set of traffic lights.

Travelling South on Kent Terrace:

Turn left into Elizabeth Street at the first set of traffic lights after the Embassy Theatre (by the Liquor Store).

Additional parking is available at the Clyde Quay school – use the top gate.



Best Fish Awards Current records: 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018.

Stirling Sports heaviest fish (junior)

Hunting & Fishing heaviest fish (senior)

Graeme McIntyre 3.23kg Brown Tongariro.

(NOTE: entries for heaviest fish of the year must be received within 30 days of capture. Entries received in March for fish caught outside the 30 day period will not qualify. Entries close 3rd week of March on printing deadline for newsletter)

Wallace Condition factor: best-conditioned fish

Neil Hollebhone, Rainbow Hen 2 lb 7 oz, 15.5 inches, C/F 65.12.

This month's best fish (month to date of newsletter deadline)

No entries.

If you think your fish qualifies phone Peter Nagle (479-4944) or email peter.nagle@xtra.co.nz

* Calculate your condition factor on the Wellington Flyfishers website.

CLUB EVENTS THIS MONTH

CASTING PRACTICE

Casting Practice Hataitai Park 9.30am Sundays

Casting tuition is available throughout winter until daylight saving begins, except on on-stream days when casting practice is held on-stream. Being able to handle windy conditions will do much for your confidence and success on-stream. Any member who needs help with casting but is unable to attend the scheduled sessions should phone Gordon Baker (027 494 6487) to arrange an alternative time. Gordon is a Federation of Fly Fishers certified casting instructor.

CLUB TRIPS

Contact Strato Cotsilinis for details.

Weekend Club Trips away from Wellington are organized each month.

Accommodation is usually prearranged for the Friday and Saturday nights (dates given are days fishing). Transport is arranged as necessary, with costs shared. Contact each organizer at the club meeting. Novice fishers are encouraged to participate. Although assistance will be available, basic casting and fishing skills are required and will make your trip more enjoyable.

Upcoming trips:

Dates	Destination	Organiser
September 16-17 th	Turangi	Strato

ON-STREAM DAY

Next onstream day – Sunday 9th

The On-Stream Day will be on the Hutt River, weather permitting. On-stream days are opportunities for members who are new to flyfishing to learn from an experienced angler. Attendance at one or two on-stream days will help in gaining an understanding of fishing rivers. Develop rudimentary casting skills at our Hataitai Park sessions before coming to an on-stream day. 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.

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE

Open Day – Sunday 3rd September from 9am to 3.30pm

Please phone Strato and let him know if you will be able to assist for the morning, the afternoon or all day.

We need anglers, marshalls, fish gutters, registration desk helpers and general all-rounders to assist and give everyone a break to have a cuppa or a cooked sausage.

FISH'N TIPS



Flood control on the Tongariro River means that fishing is usually possible despite the wet weather, however, the size of the river spreads schools of running fish out which makes them harder to get onto. The trick is to find those 'holding spots' out of the main flow where fish rest before continuing upstream.

Fishing after flood peaks as the level drops will be profitable by exploring the sides of overhanging banks and eddies below the bigger rapids. Best flies include both glo bugs and caddis naturals (particularly green or white), as well as hare and coppers, pheasant tails, and caddis patterns tied small and fished at the right depth.

Feather Merchants Fly of the Month



Venue: Tararua Tramping Club Library

Monday 18th , 7.30pm

(Access through side door on north side of building)

Boobie

A very useful Taupo (and any other lake) lure. It has an enticing diving and lifting action that trout find irresistible.

Hook. TMC 3769 size 4-10

Thread Black 3/0 or 6/

Tail. Marabou (colour optional)

Hackle. To suit body

Body. Chenille (colour optional)



If anyone has suggestions for fly patterns they would like to see tied at the flytying meetings please let Gordon know 027 494 6487. This will give an opportunity to plan ahead and order materials well in advance.

A screenshot of the Feather Merchants website. The page features a large image of a trout on the left and right sides. In the center, there is a white box with text and a logo. The text includes: 'Welcome to Feather Merchants New Zealand Ltd - fly fishing and fly tying wholesaler', 'Proud Supporters of Future River initiative - for every FM product purchased a percentage will go towards supporting Future Rivers projects, you can help as the more you buy the more the environment benefits', and '2013 - 2014 Fly Catalogue pdf'. The logo for 'FUTURE RIVERS SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES' is also visible, along with the website address 'www.futureivers.co.nz' and a short description of the initiative.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the next issue is **10pm Monday 18th September**

As a guide for article length – anything from 250-450 words per page. Early submission preferred – items not received by the deadline may not be included. Format text for A5 page size. Please copy and paste text into an email and ensure images do not exceed 1Mb. Mail hard copy to PO Box 9236, Te Aro, Wellington; or email the editor. (Attached files often result in incoming emails being treated as spam and being deleted by the server).

The newsletter is dependant on contributions from club members and all articles are eligible for the annual Literary Prize awarded at the AGM in May each year.

Advertising: The club has a policy of only accepting advertising relating to fishing. Commercial rates \$25 per half page, members no charge. Centrefold (Promotional material only) \$75. Contact the club secretary. **Please support our advertisers** – tell them you saw their ad in *Tight Lines*.

Receive the Newsletter as a pdf via email

Contact the club secretary to be added to the mail list (Please check your email settings so that the newsletter is not deleted as 'spam' or 'junk')

COMMITTEE MEETING – 5.45 pm, second Tuesday every month.

Any club member who has matters which they believe should be considered by the committee may discuss them with a committee member by phone, or at the club meeting, or write to the secretary. Committee Members – the meeting will be at Petherick Towers, 38 Waring Taylor St.

THE HELPDESK

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. It will be manned by a different senior club member each month.

WEBSITE

The club website and facebook pages provide online information, contact details and useful links.
<http://wellingtonflyfishers.org.nz>

WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB MISSION

To establish, maintain and conduct a club for the encouragement and promotion of flyfishing and all activities pertaining thereto.

2017-18 COMMITTEE

President	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Past President	Paul Baker	970-2595
Vice President		
Secretary	Heather Millar	386-3049
Treasurer	Carmen Cotsilinis	386-3740
Newsletter Editor	Chris Paulin	027 874 7326
Librarian	Warren Horne	386-3049
Website	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Club Trips	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Catering	Robyn Gray	475-9572
Print Manager	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Fly Tying & Casting	Gordon Baker	384-6513
		027 494-6487
Club Competitions	Paul Baker	970-2595
Committee	Peter Buxton	472-3456
	John Fahey	021 636 033
	Linda Brown	027 2304770
	John Gamble	027 5175825

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 to have a form mailed to you. 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 2017 - 31 March 2018

Full member or family membership \$35, Junior membership no fee.
Joining fee \$10 Overseas Newsletter postage \$45

Enquiries: kiwiflyfisher@gmail.com



WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB (INC)
PO Box 828, 79-17, Seaside, Wellington 6141 New Zealand

SPORTING LIFE - TURANGI

North Island - New Zealand
Chatterbox to the Famous Taupo River



SPORTING LIFE - The Mall, Turangi
Tel: (07) 386-6996 Fax: (07) 386-6559

sport.life@trta.co.nz www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz

SIMMS.