

TIGHT LINES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON
FLYFISHERS CLUB INC.

November 2019

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Cover: Charlotte Mears on the Hinemaiaia river (Pauline
McIntyre)

CLUB MEETING
Monday 4th November
AUCTION

Viewing from 7pm Auction starts 7.30pm

Purchases must be paid for on the night

Eftpos will be available but no credit card transactions
7.30pm, Tararua Tramping Club Rooms, 4
Moncrieff St., Mt. Victoria

This is the club's major fund raising effort for the year
Feel free to invite a mate or two along for the evening.

FLYTYING

Monday 18 November Lunker Buster

ONSTREAM

Saturday 23 November Wainuiomata

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE OPEN DAY

Open Day - Sunday 3rd November.

CLUB TRIP

23rd & 24th November Mohaka
Organiser: Linda 027 230 4770

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Andrew Bateman
Welcome back Greg and Margaret Du Bern

President's Page

I have been out fishing just the once since opening day. I had a pleasant few hours on the Wainuiomata River, and managed to net four browns, 1.5 – 2.0 kg. Those, and one fish I dropped, were the only fish I saw on the kilometre or so that I fished, so numbers based on that small sample don't appear to be high. Perhaps when the river breaks out to the sea on the beach there might be some sea-run brown trout come up the river. Still, we are lucky to have such an interesting fishery so close to the city.

On opening weekend, I biked the Timber Trail with my wife and some friends. It runs through the Pureora Forest and includes the headwaters of the Ongarue River. Much of the area was extensively cut over for timber before protest action in the 1970's saved the remnants. It was obvious that the remaining forestry plus farming is the cause of the considerable silt and discolouration that still blights the river today. Above the cut-over areas, the water was quite clear, despite overnight rainfall.

At the next meeting we have the annual Club auction. Do come along, as the evening is usually fun even if you don't see anything you intend bidding on. There are usually also some additional items that arrive that haven't quite made the list sent out with the magazine. Please bring along some cash or a cash card (no credit).

And finally, please respond to the Club's survey of member's preferences. A link was sent out by email and

some hard copies were distributed at the last meeting. Your feedback is important and will be valuable to the committee in planning future activities for the Club.

See you at the auction with \$ in hand.

Paul

Trout Season Open Day 2019

The 2019 open day on the 1st October this year was more keenly anticipated than those of recent years. Perhaps it was the fact that last year's fishing on the Wainuiomata (Wainui) was some of the best I had experienced for many years and it was hoped that this would carry over into the new season.

The fishing on the Wainui is usually governed by two events which are beyond my control and which normally decide whether I will go there on any particular day or whereabouts on the river I need to fish.

1 Never go fishing in a strong southerly on the Wainui (or the Hut for that matter).

2 The best fishing on the Wainui is when the river mouth is open and in the early season this is of particular importance as it allows the whitebait to come into the estuary attracting many fish to the lower reaches. It also ensures that when nymphing, a good current is present.

Thoughts of a great open day this year were therefore somewhat dampened when the weather forecast was for strong southerlies and periods of rain but nevertheless opening day was a tradition that couldn't be missed. By 8.00am I was approaching the bottom bridge car park only to find an angler already there so I

continued on to the bottom of the reserve. It immediately became apparent that the river mouth was closed as the river was higher than I have seen it for a number of years. Not a good start, southerlies blowing and the river mouth closed.

I tried to fish the areas around the bottom gorge but the river was so high it made crossing impossible and the wind was really howling up through that area. Hoping that the other angler had not ventured too far downstream I then moved up to the pump house where the effect of the closed river mouth was still apparent but at least there was some flow.

A few casts and a lovely spotted 1½lb hen came to the net. The first one for the season is always special. Upstream on the stretch below the bridge a second fish took the nymph, much bigger this time, and it wasn't long before a well-conditioned jack was being released for another day.

By this time it was raining and the wind had increased and things were becoming uncomfortable. I took my sunglasses off only to find I wasn't wearing my normal specs underneath so somewhere along the river I had dropped them. Decided to retrace my steps to where I had caught my first fish and not too far upstream I remembered I had stopped for a comfort stop.

Resting on the bank were the lost glasses so one has to accept that despite the southerlies and despite the closed river mouth two nice fish was not too bad a start.

I reached the car and decided to spend a few minutes fishing the upstream section above the bridge only to have the best fish of the day also take the hair and copper nymph and come to the net. By this time the rain was really heavy so I headed home mid-afternoon.

Strato

Fly Fishing Only

A Lifetime Experience with the Fly on three Continents (Part Two)

During the 1970s, a scholarship of the Canadian National Museum enabled me to do anthropological fieldwork about ethnic communities in the western prairie province of Saskatchewan for a number of years. At the weekends, my Mennonite hosts used to take me to the many big lakes in the North for pike fishing. At the famous Lake La Ronge I surprised my farmer friends by successfully fishing for pikes with a fly, a method that the avid keen spin fishermen had never seen before. When I took up fieldwork in the Hutterite colony of Riverview near Saskatoon, I found myself again on the banks of fishing heaven, the renowned South Saskatchewan River. The river was famous for a rare freshwater fish called goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*), one of the two remaining species in the family *Hiodontidae*. During warm evening hours, they created remarkable rises and could easily caught with small dry flies like Kahaki Queen or Parachute Adams. They were a gourmet dish when hot smoked. Occasional journeys from Saskatchewan to the distant British Columbia provided good chances to fish some of the beautiful rivers of the Rocky Mountains. My favourite was the Athabasca River. I once hired an Indian guide who took me to a spectacular spot with raging water. We did wet lining downstream and the guide fixed an additional maggot to the hook to make it more attractive. I caught eight beautiful arctic graylings which I shared at the

BBQ, much to the delight of my neighbours at the campground. In 2016 my wife and me returned to the Riverview Colony in Saskatchewan for a visit where we heard the bad news that the South Saskatchewan River is now devoid of any fish. The industrial mercury pollution had done its deal.

My academic career led me away from Freiburg to become the director of the Department of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Göttingen in northern Germany. Again, I found myself happily in a town with a river running through, the River Leine. This river was located on the dividing line between trout and grayling. When fly fishing north or south of the city, you could never be sure of you had a speckled or a striped one on your hook. But the real domain of the fly fisher was the nearby Harz Mountains, the most northerly mountainous region of Germany. I joined the Osterode Fishing Club and was one of the few fly fishermen on a 20 km stretch of pristine trout water, the river Söse. I fly fished that river for twenty years and I can't remember a visit without any catch. I introduced the Royal Wulff and the German trout liked it very much. The catch rate was three trout a day, six a week and 60 for the season. I always went home when I had reached my bag and never continued with catch and release, which is illegal in Germany and other European countries. All my life, my philosophy has been `Don't ever take more than you need`. (I always wondered that in New Zealand trout had a closed season, whereas you could still fish for spawning trout in the Tongariro).

Part Three

I first came to New Zealand in 1996 with a scholarship of the German Endowment of Humanities to study the German connection to this country. In 2000 we made Wellington our permanent home. Certainly, trout fishing was one of the most attractive motifs for our changing places, and I have never regretted it one day. I have never counted the number of rivers and lakes that I had fished in more than 20 years in this beautiful country. I could easily fill another book with that infamous title *100 Rivers you have to fish before you die*. My first big fishing trip with Günter Karau, in October 2000, led us on a fixed wing plane from Taupo to an airstrip near the Boyd Hut where we stayed for five days fishing the headwaters of the Ngaruroro River. It was great wilderness fishing and I caught my first New Zealand trophy trout of 3,5 kg. For my 65th birthday in 2000, my wife gave me a Hardy's Smuggler fly rod. But after I broke its top piece when playing a big trout at the Wainuiomata River mouth, I decided the rod is so precious I will only take it out of its leather case when fishing the Bruce or Watercress Creeks in the South Island.

Looking back, I would like to thank my great New Zealand fishing guides Frank Schlosser and Graeme Marshall who introduced me to the subtleties of New Zealand fly fishing. I am also indebted to my friend Bob Wear for his longterm hospitality in his wonderful holiday home at Lake Taupo from where we fished the Whareroa stream mouth, Lake Kuratau and the Tongariro and played the Turangi Golf Course. I also thank the

members of WFFC for always providing good advice, information and great companionship.

Petri Dank! **Rolf Brednich**

HELPFUL LINKS FOR WELLINGTON FLY FISHERS



www.creeltackle.com



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



www.sportinglife-turangi.co.nz



www.huntingandfishing.co.nz/wellington



www.stevesfishingshop.co.nz



www.fishscene.co.nz



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NEW ZEALAND

New Sims G4 Range
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sole for studs. \$550

New jackets \$1,000

Waders \$1,350

Club discount 10% available on
flyfishing purchases (excluding specials)
with your membership card
The Flyfishing Experts

Hut Valley Hunting & Fishing Nz
444 Cuba Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt,
P O Box 33 206, Petone, Wellington, New Zealand
Telephone: 0064-4-589 9500 Fax: 0064-4-589 952

FLY OF THE MONTH

Venue: Tararua Tramping Club Locker Room
Monday 18th November 2019, 7.30pm
(Access through side door on north side of building)

LUNKER BUSTER FLY



The Lunker Buster was developed by a Manawatu fisherman (Roy Cotter) as an alternative to the Pheasant Tail Nymph. It can therefore be used in all the situations where you would normally use a Pheasant Tail Nymph.

Materials

Hook	#12 or #14
Tail	Hare guard fibres
Body wire	Black tying thread ribbed with copper
Thorax	Hare fur with guard hairs over a layer of lead wire.
Wing Case	Turkey

Fish Of the Month

September: Richard Benefield 2.25kg Tongariro Rainbow.

October Junior Oli Mears 1.70kg Rainbow Hen Jones Pool Tongariro

CAPITAL TROUT CENTRE OPEN DAY

The next Open Day will be on Sunday 3rd November.
If you can help, ring Strato 387 7878 (day) or 386 3741 (night)

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.



Casting Tuition

Anyone wanting casting tuition please contact Strato

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for the December issue is 15th Nov 2019
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 (levineha@gmail.com). (Attached files often result in incoming emails being treated as spam and being deleted by the server).

The newsletter depends 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 – 6 pm, second Monday 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.

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>

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 2019 - 31 March 2020

Full member or family membership \$35, Junior membership no fee.

Joining fee \$10

Overseas Newsletter

postage \$45

Enquiries wellingtonflyfishersclub@gmail.com

WELLINGTON FLYFISHERS CLUB MISSION

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

2018-2019 COMMITTEE

President	Paul Baker	970-2595
Past President	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Secretary	Heather Millar	386-3049
Treasurer	Carmen Cotsilinis	386-3740
Newsletter Editor	Hal Levine	0274200482
Librarian	Warren Horne	386-3049
Website	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Club Trips	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Print Manager	Peter Nagle	479-4944
Fly Tying & Casting	Strato Cotsilinis	386-3740
Club Competitions	Paul Baker	970-2595
Committee	Peter Buxton	472-3456
	Brian Bee	021-630075
	Scott Garelli	021-325032
	John Gamble	0275175825
	Linda Brown	0272304770
	John Fahey	021-636033