

“Ripples”

The Official publication of the Southland Fly Fishing Club

The club was founded in 1974

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www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Southland Fly Fishing Club

Editors Choice Tippets

Fish and Game says "Dont eat trout in 1080 affected areas"

Anglers are being warned by the Department of Conservation (DOC) not to eat trout from pristine backcountry waters and their downstream catchments, where the department is conducting 1080 poisoning operations. In response to publicly expressed concerns by the New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers, and supported by Fish & Game New Zealand, DOC commissioned research by the independent Cawthron Research Institute on the risks of mice carrying sub-lethal levels of 1080, and which are routinely consumed by trout, becoming a food safety risk for humans. Chief executive of Fish & Game New Zealand, Bryce Johnson says "The results indicate that, 1080 levels in trout flesh were significantly in excess of recognised Food Safety guidelines(FSA), for safe human health and DOC is now having to advise anglers not to eat trout caught in 1080 poisoned catchments, until advised otherwise." "Anglers fishing back country waters, including overseas anglers who come here because of the trout fishery's international reputation, have always been able to assume that it is totally safe to catch a trout and eat it. Sadly, this turns that over and is not a good look for New Zealand's 100% pure environmental brand." Mr Johnson says that his organisation has been left with no choice but to support this advisory from DOC, and adds that "further research to more closely simulate the natural, wild environment is needed to provide, a more accurate picture of the risks." "Fish and game is not saying don't go fishing in the back country, just don't eat the fish."

Loon Line Speed line cleaner

A clean line makes all the difference to floatation and longevity of your fly line. The start of the season is a good time to get into the habit of line maintenance. Loon supply a line cleaner, conditioner, and UV block for fly lines. By cleaning, adding a slickness, filling in imperfections and protecting lines from the sun, Line Speed allows lines to cast farther and last longer. Unlike most line cleaners, Line Speed doesn't leave a sticky, dirt gathering silicone fluid coating.



Cover Photo—Tahami Creek BC Canada—Johnny Mauchline

Around the Club



An exceptionally well tied fly and photograph

Well I am back from a trip around the world in time for the start of the season. Well planned indeed! I will be reporting on the trip over the next few editions.

If you see Les casting terribly on the river please be kind. He has blown out his casting shoulder and is learning to cast with his other arm.

Good news that F&G has implemented a fishing licence for visiting overseas anglers. Not before time. Common overseas and may reduce the number of Aussies on the water.

"People get the Politicians and fishing tackle they deserve."

John Gierach

Fishing Report by Redtag



I got back from around the world trip on the 30th September just in time for the opening day of the season. Conditions were not wonderful on the river on the 1st October which although was in relatively good order was dead as with no fish seen or moving. Low pressure and easterly winds didn't help. Fortunately I was able to hook up on a wee trout on a nymph so a total blank for opening day was avoided. Then conditions deteriorated to the extent that the almost all rivers and tributaries in South land were all but unfishable with heavy rain and snow in most localities.



So what to do? Apart from heading to the headwaters the back up plan is to fish the backwaters and margins for cruising and tailing trout. There are always spots that produce in these conditions and finding them and only using them when required is a great alternative to watching Coronation Street.

I am lucky enough to have found 2 good spots locally that are exceptional fisheries in their own right and on which I never see an other angler. So on the weekends since the opening I have stalked good browns tailing and cruising the edges of these waters. Sometimes I will spend an hour on a fish waiting for the right moment to give every advantage to me as they are wily and cautious and spook easily.



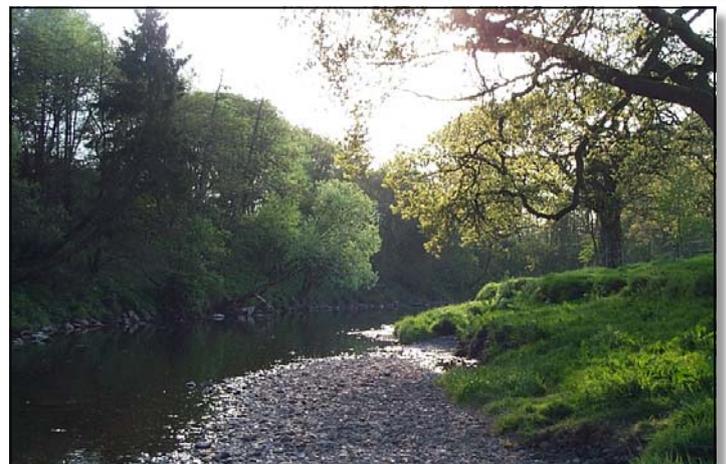
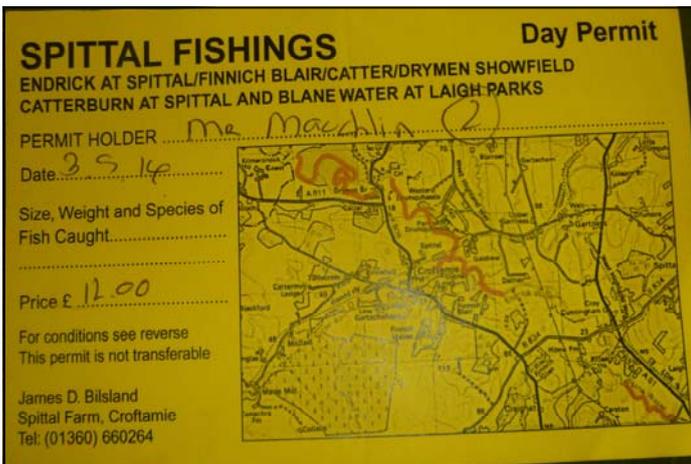
Patience and presentation of the fly is the key. You need to see the fish and anticipate its route through the water and present the fly directly in its path a good 2 metres or so ahead. Casting any closer will spook it. The fish are high in the water or in the shallows Tailing. A wee Parachute Adams seems to do the trick.

Lets hope conditions improve over the next few weeks.

Fishing tales from Scotland by Johnny Mauchline



Endrick River at Dalnair Castle



On my trip to Scotland I fished the Endrick with my father. The river flows into Loch Lomond and is a renowned salmon and sea trout river. With unseasonably low water in September we didn't catch any migratory fish but caught plenty of free rising brown trout and the occasional dace on wee dries. The Spittal Fishings extend for about 5 km both banks and a further 1 km on the Blane Water tributary. A day permit costs \$12 which is good value on Scottish Rivers.



Casting on the Bonhill Bridge Pool on the River Leven



I spent a week fishing the River Leven in September. Again with low water the migratory fish were not running in great numbers. The Leven is the second fastest flowing river in Scotland after the Spey. At only six miles long it flows from Loch Lomond to the Firth of Clyde. An excellent salmon and sea trout fly fishing river with excellent pools and runs. Although I did see the odd salmon I didn't catch any during the week. It was however a great experience to fish largely alone on the pools and spey cast with a salmon rod. A weekly visitors permit costs \$100. The river is managed by the Loch Lomond Angling Improvement Association. The Vale of Leven & Districts Angling club has a clubhouse on the river at Balloch of which my father was a member for many years.



Pictured:
Members Winston McCone and Russell Sinclair display a male jack salmon caught last year in the Mataura River weighing in at 25lb. The men are holding a 10.5 lb Sea run salmon caught by Russell in 2008.

The Mataura Angling Club held its third fishing competition this season yesterday, six anglers taking part. The day though fine was not altogether suitable for the sport, a strong south-westerly gale prevailing to the discomfort of the competitors. The winner turned up in Mr R. Allison, who, fishing on the Wairekiki, secured 19 fish weighing 13lbs. 11½oz. This performance carries with it a prize of the value of £1 1s. The second prize, a fly book donated by Messrs Wilkie and Co., Dunedin, went to Mr W. Allison, who fished in the Mimihau and landed 17 fish weighing 14lb. 7oz. This competitor was handicapped 10 per cent. and thus was defeated for first place by the narrow margin of 5oz. Mr J. Barclay annexed the third prize, which was donated by Mr N. Colquhoun, by getting five fish out of the Mimihau which weighed 7lb. 1oz. Messrs D. McGowan, J. Murdoch and J. Beattie also weighed in. The president's medal for the heaviest bags in the two competitions was won by Mr R. Allison with a total weight of 32lb. 4½oz.

The total weight of yesterday's catch was 49lb. as against 146lb. for the first competition held this season.

The Mataura Angling Club picture on the left is a photo from last year.
The article on the right is from the Mataura Ensign dated 13 January 1910.



Unfortunately it is not all good news in Mataura as I discovered last week. Some moron has dumped their household rubbish and beer bottles in a lane next to the river. This is not the first time it has happened. I have reported these instances to the Gore Council and Environment Southland but very little ever gets done. I even scoured the rubbish for evidence of who was dumping and found a name and address on several mail items. I sent this to the council asking for action but never heard back from them.

September Fly Competition— Winners of Black Ostrich Nymph



The winning fly by popular vote—Dave Harris left and Chris MacDonald shared the Prize, well done guys. (Note: Chris's down turned barb.)

Casting Day



The Club held a casting day at Queens Park, Sunday 28th September.

The turnout was exceptional, probably the biggest turnout we have had for some years.



Plenty of people wanting a little help with their casting, and some also wanting to join the Fly Fishing course in January, a great day all round.



The weather was particularly kind and all the usual helpers were there, thank you to everyone.



Presidents Report by Dave Harris

Prior to the season starting we always have a casting day at Queens Park. Generally we get a few members of the public as well as a few members. I don't know what happened this year but we were almost overrun by the general public. Many had no fly fishing experience and were checking out how difficult it was to cast. Others were very keen to learn and as a result we picked up a few registrations for our Fly Fishing Course at the end of January. The weather helped with a nice fine day. We also had a good number of members along and thanks go to those who helped people out with their casting.

I had time at the end of the day to try a couple of rods with a Rio Gold line that I have not had a lot of joy with. I bought this line when I built my first CTS rod, an Affinity MX #6 but just did not seem to be able to get the thing to fly. It still felt the same on this rod but I decided to try it on my newer CTS Affinity X #6. This rod is a lot stiffer and I generally only use it on windy days. On this rod the Rio Gold felt a lot better and I have used the combination for all three fishing trips I have made this season. My conclusion is that I had too much line out and the Affinity MX rod was just being overloaded.



I opened my season with Rick and Clayton on the Wairaki. I didn't do as well as last year but had a good brown in the net before 8:00am. We had to work pretty hard in the wind and finished the day with 8 fish landed between us. I have had a lot worse starts to the season than that.

The opening weekend trip was not good. Most of Saturday was spent at the lodge tying flies and watching the snow fall outside. We did get out late in the afternoon. I was fishing with Ken and we went to the Hamilton Burn. This was clear but quite low. We saw a few fish and hooked a couple but nothing came to the net. Chris and Steven went to the Tomogalak and then the Mataura. Chris was the only one to land anything. Sunday

Ken and I went to the Irthing (lots of willows to shelter us from the wind). Once again we saw a few fish, hooked a couple but nothing in the net. Not a great weekend in terms of results but I am sure Ken and Steven appreciated the fly tying training that went on at the lodge.

I will probably not get out again until Labour Weekend but should be pretty free for a while from then. Still have a couple of new things to try this season so hopefully will find some good weather and clear rivers to try them.

New Librarian

Unfortunately Jarred Martin has found he does not have the time required to stay on as our Librarian and has resigned from this position. Ken Brown has kindly offered to step in as Librarian. He still has to figure out what he needs to do so it may take a little while for him to get on top of the job.

October Monthly Meeting Speakers.

We will have two speakers from Environment Southland at the October Meeting. One will speak on river protection works and the other will speak on willow control.

Annual Fishing Competitions by Dave Harris

The Club Fishing Competitions this year take the same form as in the past. This is an honesty competition where hand in your cards at the monthly meetings (or any other time you can find me). You were given 7 cards when you paid your subscription and that is one card for each month of the season. You can put more in but you will need to buy more cards from the Secretary to make it through the season. The cards handed in at each meeting go in a draw for a \$20 gift voucher from Hunting & Fishing. It doesn't matter how big the fish is you can still win the gift voucher.

There are 4 sections to the annual competitions – heaviest brown, heaviest rainbow, total weight and condition factor. The first two are easy to figure out, total weight is the total for one fish per month (hence the seven cards) and the condition factor is based on the length and weight of the fish.

Calculation is:

$$\text{Condition Factor} = \frac{\text{weight}}{\text{length} \times \text{length} \times \text{length}} \times 100000$$

Weight is in pounds and length is in inches

If you use metric instead of imperial measures it looks like this:

$$\text{Condition Factor} = \frac{\text{weight}}{\text{length} \times \text{length} \times \text{length}} \times 3612.8$$

Weight is in grams and length is in cm.

A very good fish gives a condition factor of 60 – 70. If this calculation gives numbers over this I get very suspicious of the data.

There is also a Junior Competition and this is based on taking part in Club activities. Points are awarded for attending meetings, coming out on Club trips putting in fish cards each month, entering the photo competition and entering flies in the fly tying competition.

Name This Stream Competition

The September photo brought 2 responses. Mike Harstonge was correct in identifying the Borland River.

Last months photo of a stream brought no response so it is in again. This months photo is again by Les Ladbrook. Answers by email only please to service@eis.co.nz Correct answers will be placed in a draw for a \$20 Hunting and Fishing voucher sponsored by EIS. If you have a photo of a Southland stream you would like to include in the competition please email the Editor.



Coming Events

| | | |
|-----------|------|---|
| 28th Oct | [MM] | Speaker – Jarred Martin |
| 1st Nov | | High Country Opening (Saturday) |
| 1/2nd Nov | | Club Trip [Weekend at the Lodge] - High Country Opening |
| 4th Nov | (CM) | Fly Tying |
| 9th Nov | | Club Day Trip meet at Fish & Game – 9am |
| ? | | Shift Workers / Retirees mid week trip – |
| 25th Nov | [MM] | |
| 2nd Dec | (CM) | Fly Tying |
| 7th Dec | | Club Trip, Catlins – Meet at Fish & Game 7:00am |

Club Contacts

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- Editor Johnny Mauchline, 10 Carlyle Street, Mataka (021 2877 323) service@eis.co.nz
Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Ken Brown, Invercargill
- Lodge Custodian Rick Gerrard, 44 Watt Road Otatara, 03 213-0920 (H) or txt 0275984322

Club items for sale

Metal Badges \$15 ea.



Cloth Patches \$12 ea.



Club Meetings

The club meets at 7:30pm on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Fish & Game building, 159 North Road Invercargill. [The February meeting is on the river.](#)

Executive Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month following the general meeting, except for Dec/Jan, includes fly tying, so come along and bring your gear if you want help with a fly—all members welcome.

Club Resources

The club has an extensive library of Books and Videos, contact the Librarian, Jarred Martin.

A blow up Rubber Boat and a set of five Radio's, which can be borrowed by club members, contact Les Ladbrook.

Club Sponsors



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