

“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

Truce? We are really allies and not enemies

Fish and Game chief executive Bryce Johnson says it's time to get out of the trenches and look at the issues. He surprised Federated Farmers' Dairy Council delegates at their recent meeting in Taupo when he suggested farmers and Fish and Game had now reached the point where the next step was to work more closely together. FWplus asked him what he meant. It is fair to say delegates at the Federated Farmers' Dairy Council conference were surprised when I told them Fish and Game was not their enemy but a potentially influential strategic ally. To me, it was a statement of the obvious but for many at the conference I suspect it was not what they expected to hear. After all, haven't Fish and Game and farmers been at loggerheads for years, scrapping over the environment, pollution and most of all, water? The environment is dear to the hearts of New Zealanders. According to Lincoln University's biennial survey of public perceptions of the environment, the most important environmental issue at the moment is water, particularly its quality. Clean water is what NZ, the public and the economy needs – nothing survives without it – but like any resource, it is finite. It is important not to dismiss Fish and Game as "just another lobby group". It is far more than that. It is a statutory organisation, set up under the Conservation Act and reporting to Parliament. It has a minister and scrutinised by the Auditor General. It also has standing under other key pieces of legislation, such as resource management, walking access and overseas investment. In short, Parliament has given Fish and Game a key role protecting the environment. It is independent and has no mandate to compromise. This strong legislative pedigree is precisely what makes Fish and Game a potentially powerful and influential, strategic ally of farmers. Fish and Game is not anti-dairying or anti-farming. It is anti-unsustainable farming and will always be because such practices directly conflict with our environmental mandate. That is what the law requires of us as an organisation. Farmers need to realise that and the modern society they operate in. The dairy industry's leadership, in particular, needs to step up because at the moment the Dairy Companies Association and Dairy Environment Leadership Group are invisible in the public arena. These leaders' silence and inaction is widening the divide between those who live in the country and city dwellers. They are failing to resonate with middle NZ and their historic denial of climate change and declining water quality has harmed the industry. That puts farming's social licence to operate at risk. I acknowledge the progress Federated Farmers has made under its new leadership and its attempts to address 21st century public opinion. Inviting me to address the organisation's dairy leaders in Taupo is a good example of that change in thinking and willingness to hear alternative views. I am thankful for the opportunity. The big challenge for farming is to tackle its poor performers. There are farmers who care passionately about the environment and do good work protecting waterways, forests and habitat. We are proud to know them. But there are also the poor performers, the recidivist polluters, who do real and lasting damage to farming's image and fuel conflict with the wider community. Instead of closing ranks and protecting them, the industry needs to show them the door. There are several ways to do this. Making pollution socially unacceptable is a good start. Another is making dairy companies responsible for their suppliers' environmental performance. But the simplest and most straightforward method is logic. It is just plain, good, business sense to give consumers what they want – a clean environment and sustainable farming. Financiers are starting to think along similar lines. The National Australia Bank is reported to be considering offering cheaper loans to environmentally sustainable and responsible farmers. Farmers would be wise to heed signs of a shift in Government thinking. "Fish and Game is not anti-dairying or anti-farming. It is anti-unsustainable farming." The Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy recently gave a blunt speech to farming leaders. He warned them against arrogance and complacency, saying they need to realise environmental sustainability is a necessity for both the NZ public and global consumers. Guy also told them they need to "sort out" the poor performers "dragging the sector's name into the mud". Now, if I said that, there would have been a sharp and violent reaction. It is significant that it was uttered by a National Government minister and farmers ignore that at their peril. Yet, while I agree with the minister, to be frank, the future of farming and the environment is too important to be left up to politicians. That carries too many risks. The risk for the environment is that the issue becomes a right versus left debate, with one side being supported when a new government enters office, only for its changes to be repealed when the opposition takes power. That situation carries real risks for farming because it provides no certainty for farmers or their financiers. A long-term remedy must be found. Instead of leaving it to politicians to define, key players such as Fish and Game, Federated Farmers and big dairy industry members like Fonterra need to reach agreement on what that remedy is and how it should be implemented. Government should be the servant of that agreement. Fish and Game is not farmers' enemy and not their biggest risk but a potentially vital and influential, strategic ally. No one denies that farming is vital to the NZ economy. But so is the natural environment. It is time to take a step up and make sure both survive.

Farmers Weekly



Exceptionally well tied fly and photograph

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

John Gierach

Fishing Report by Redtag



Fishing over the past month or so at the end of the season has again been extra tough going with the remaining open rivers running high and generally discoloured. Options were pretty limited and only the headwaters of the high-country streams were available when the river levels were down. On the last days of the season myself and Krisna who had never caught a NZ trout on the fly spent time on the high country streams. We were very lucky to find them in good condition with excellent clarity and flow. All was well for a foray into the streams and hopefully find some good fish that had come up from the lakes.

We started off early on a remote access high up the stream but found a vehicle already there. They had however left a note stating they were going downstream. So off we went upstream. We walked up through a few pools but didn't see a fish. I happened to glance way upstream and saw movement. Two anglers were fishing above us. The ones who had said they were going downstream! So we backtracked for a few kilometres downstream and then began looking for fish. The sun came out and it was mild and still. Just then a few big duns started to come off the water. We polaroided a few pools and then I saw a fish in a run at the tail and glancing further up the pool saw another four in the deep gut. A fish rose and took a dun off the top. I cast to the lower fish and let the dry fly drift drag free over its lie but it didn't take. I tied on a wee green caddis below the dry and cast again and it came up and took the nymph with gusto. I took the fish down the pool and a good brown in top condition was released in the water. I hailed Krisna who was checking out another pool and set him up for the other fish. He casted well across to the next lower fish and immediately got a take but didn't strike. Then again on his next cast another missed take!. We rested them for a few minutes and he recast and successfully hooked up on a quality brown. (see photo of Krisna top left) His first on the fly. He was stoked.

Just as we were congratulating ourselves a 4WD appeared below us driving up river. And I mean upriver! A party of hunters they had obviously come in at an access downriver that allows you to drive onto the river bed and were making their way upstream through the pools to the hunters hut up in the headwaters! So spoiling the fishing for us below.

Anyway we ended up the day with some good fish and Krisna caught a nice rainbow to add to his day. A fine end to the season and although there were not a lot of lake run fish in the river we left contented and Happy. Cant ask for more than that.

So that's it done and dusted now. Time now to get back to the fly tying bench in my workshop and tie up supplies for the new season.

The First Recorded Fly in History by Sakasa Kebari



Macedonian Fly blind tied onto a furred horsehair tippet.

Head: black thread

Body: red wool

Hackle: two ginger rooster feathers

Hook: barbless size 17

Mention of fly fishing in Macedonia was first recorded in the *De Animalium Natura*, written by historian Claudius Aelianus, around 200 AD. The book mentions fisherman catching speckled fish using red wool and wax coloured rooster feathers, tied on a hook and fished with a 6 foot pole and a horsehair leader.

I pretty much replicated every process mentioned in the book, from building my own six foot rod, to furling a horsehair leader and tying several versions of what the fly may have looked like, based on the recipe.

Of course the true test and the most enjoyable part of the process is taking the flies and rod out to the wild Montana streams and catching fish, probably in the same manner in which they were caught 1,800 to 2,000 years ago.

Editors Note: Sakasa Kebari specialises in tying Tenkara style flies. Check out his Facebook page - Sakasa Kebari Tenkara Fishing Flies

Fly tying Competition—May



There were 5 entries for the May competition which was to tie a CDC emerging nymph



The winning fly by popular vote was tied by Johnny Mauchline

July Fly — Partridge & Orange Wet Fly by Les Ladbrook



Size 12 standard hook

Orange thread

Partridge feather

My example is tied with red thread as I did not have any orange at the moment.

Start laying a base of orange thread in the normal manner from the eye down to just above the barb on the hook, then bring back again laying a second layer of thread up to about one quarter of the length of the shank from the eye



Prepare a Partridge feather, the hackles should be approximately the length of the hook shank or a bit longer, remove one side of the hackles from the feather, this makes it easier to lay the hackles down facing backwards



Tie in the feather by the tip, then take two turns of the feather and tie off. Finish off the fly in the normal manner with a whip finish.

If you view these videos on the internet first it will make tying a lot clearer.

Partridge & Orange Wet Fly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3H0700WW3E>

A variation on the Partridge & Orange Soft Hackle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPkdman84lc>



Fly Tying Scissors



'ROY B. JENKINS Fly-Tying Scissors'

Superb 'Fly-Tying Scissors' made from 420 Japanese steel. Super 'Fine' points for finesse work, trade secret tempering to achieve razor blade sharpness. Micro-serrated eye with very comfortable finger loops. 4 & 5-inch models available with a personal touch if required. Have your name, club or business logo imprinted on each piece to make this superb product uniquely yours!

CONTACT: Roy B. Jenkins at - rbj13@hotmail.com



UK fishing trip report by Ian Michelson



I Have fished the last three days on the Wiltshire Avon. Fishing this river can cost NZ\$140 a day. Not quite a true chalkstream but good fun. Plenty of small trout to 1.5lb. Mostly 0.5lb to 1lb with the occasional Grayling. Proper dry fly upstream only water. Not even emergers are allowed.

I got rolled wading on the river! I was on the MOD (Ministry of Defence) section which is full of military officers as it is generally restricted to Serving & Retired members of the Armed Forces and MOD civilians. A booming very posh voice from other side of river " Sorry to be a bore but the rules say no wading until June 1st ". Sorry Sir says I and scurried out ! Crazy stuff as quite impossible to fish between weed lines from the bank. I would be drummed out in no time.



Editors Note: Ian has obviously once again been fishing way above his station and yet again upsetting the locals

Fish & Game wants answers over Taupo Trout Proposal

Fish & Game is meeting the Office of Treaty Settlements to get answers over a controversial proposal to allow Ngati Tuwharetoa to raise trout in Taupo's existing trout hatchery facilities. The agreement in principle allows Tuwharetoa to use the Tongariro National Trout Centre to raise and harvest trout for consumption for "cultural purposes". Tuwharetoa would also be allowed to train iwi members in trout rearing. Fish & Game chief executive Bryce Johnson says the proposals are disturbing and come as a complete surprise. "Fish & Game is the primary manager and guardian of trout in New Zealand and yet we knew nothing of this proposal. "It is disappointing that we only heard of what was happening through the grapevine. The fact there was no consultation is a basic lack of common courtesy and makes what has happened doubly offensive. "Fish & Game and recreational anglers are justifiably worried this is the thin end of the wedge to try and open the door to trout farming. The present law is that trout are not a commercial species and trout farming is specifically prohibited. That is the way it should stay."

Mr Johnson questions the Office of Treaty Settlements' statutory authority to even make such an offer. "The Crown has little to do with trout and it is politically inflammatory to use them to settle its Treaty obligations. Anglers brought trout to this country, not the government, and generations of anglers have protected, managed and nurtured sports fish, paying for them from their own pockets. Fish & Game is pursuing the issue with the Office of Treaty Settlements, DoC and the Conservation Minister. "The courts, all the way to the Court of Appeal, have already determined Maori have no Treaty-based statutory relationship with trout. Not only are trout a treasured recreational resource for tens of thousands of New Zealanders, but they also earn this country millions in tourism revenue", he said.

Final Fling by Hare & Copper

The previous week the long range forecast didn't look great for the last weekend of May (which was also Queen's Birthday weekend) but by the time the weekend arrived the forecast was looking a lot better.

Friday night saw three of us head to the Lodge, Chris, Paul & Dave. Ian (from this year's course) was in Te Anau and keen to join us for the fishing but would remain in his Te Anau accommodation. Saturday morning we set off with plans to meet Ian at the Upukerora River just above the Milford Road. Chris would fish with Ian walking right through to Ladies Mile Road while Dave and Paul would start and finish at Ladies Mile Road. The river was still a little above normal and not completely clear but definitely fishable. Fish were hard to spot due to the cloudy conditions but a few were found and the four of us managed 13 fish for the day, all taken on nymphs. There were others on the river with Dave & Paul running into another fisherman as well as seeing a 4wd ute driving up and down the river. Once Chris and Ian finally arrived at the pump house at Ladies Mile (a straight line was not a short cut, the river would have been much easier going) we were off back to Te Anau to drop Ian off at his car and fuel up as the pessimistic fuel gauge was suggesting we had used half a tank already. We actually only needed 24l to fill right up. Then it was on to Mossburn Pub for the usual dinner. Well fed and watered it was time to go back to the Lodge, where we found Johnny who had also fished the Upuk with similar success to us.

Sunday we set off to the Von River meeting up with Ian on the way in. Again the river was a bit above normal and it was not easy to spot the few fish that were in the river. Dave & Paul headed up from the old homestead while Chris & Ian went into the lower gorge. When we all met up again later in the day and with the tally at only 4 fish, it was decided to have a look at the Von Lake. This was already in the shade by then and it was pretty cold as there was quite a bit of snow lying around. There was also quite a strong breeze by this time. There were a few touches and Ian finally managed to land a fish after the others had headed away. Back at the Lodge Chris headed back to town while Dave and Paul settled in for dinner before packing up and heading home as well. Plans to go to Mavora the next day being cancelled as Paul was a bit off colour.

Not the greatest weekend's fishing but it was the final outing for the rivers this season and at least everyone caught something both days. The Lodge was also closed up for winter so that is another job out of the way.

Presidents Report by Dave Harris

The season is well and truly over (except of course the tidal reaches and lakes) and the weather has been very wintry. We had our first winter events on June 13 with a Fly Tying Day and the Annual Dinner. There were only 5 people along at the Fly Tying Day with just three there for the whole day. Mostly it was just routinely tying flies for next season although at the end of the day there were some attempts to produce a Mike Weddell style blood worm without any flexi floss (red rubber leg material just doesn't quite work!). There were 8 of us at the dinner and as usual there was some fun with the exchange of gifts (even if one or two were recycled from previous years).

We have our member's photo and video night coming up at the June meeting. This also includes the photo competition. For the photo and video night we need you to bring along either videos or photos taken during the season on a memory stick so that we can show them to everyone. For the photo competition photos need to be 7 x 5 prints of photos as taken. Good quality prints from one of the retailers who print them are generally better than home prints.

We will be having another fly tying day in August. This will be on August 2 which is a Sunday. Come along and tie some flies for next season. If you need some assistance with your fly tying we will be able to help you.

It is also time to start planning those trips for next year. I have already made a booking in Te Anau for my annual trip although I have only booked part of the accommodation due to the way the internet booking works. I won't need to plan as much next year as I will have retired by the start of the season so will be able to head off at the drop of a hat to make the most of whatever good weather we get. I am really looking forward to that – no more looking out the window at work at fine days during the week when the weather has been awful at the weekends.

Competitions

Fish Competition

The results of the annual fish completion will be presented at the July meeting. I will still accept fish cards up at the June meeting. There must be more out there as I only have 4 for April

Fly Tying Competition

May fly winner was Johnny Mauchline and the winner of the Draw was Chris McDonald.

The June fly was in last month's Ripples and you need to get this to me before or at the June meeting. All flies entered go in the draw for a \$20 Hunting & Fishing voucher. The July fly is in this Ripples.

Photo Competition

The photo competition will be held at the June meeting. It is time to start sorting your photos for this competition. There are 4 categories and you can enter 3 photos in each. Photos are to be 7" x 5" and must be from this season. The categories are action, trophy, scenic and general. No guidelines, if you think it fits that categories that is where it goes.

Name This Stream Competition

No correct answers last month so again this months photo is by Les Ladbrook. Answers by email only please to service@eis.co.nz Correct answers will be placed in a draw for a \$30 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.



Clearance Items:

Hunting & Fishing are offering this equipment to members of the SFFC, before the gear is included in a sale which starts on the 25th June.

The 10% discount on top of the sale price does not apply..



Southland Flyfishing Club - Simms Accessories & Aiflo clearance

				Normal RRP	SFFC Offer
SIMMS -	Dry creek roll top				
	backpack			\$249.99	\$209.99
	Headwaters medium sling pack			\$149.99	\$114.99
	Headwaters half day pack			\$199.99	\$179.99
	Dry creek day pack			\$219.99	\$199.99
	Headwaters full day pack			\$249.99	\$209.99
SIMMS -	Riffle Wading jacket			\$499.99	\$399.99
	Windstopper Beanies			\$49.99	\$39.99
SIMMS -	Guide Vest			\$249.99	\$209.99
	G3 Guide Vest			\$349.99	\$249.99
SIMMS -	Rivershed Wading boots			\$349.99	\$249.99
	G3 Guide Wading boots			\$399.99	\$339.99
AIRFLO -	Super Dri Flylines				
	Ballistic	x 4		\$139.99	\$119.99
	Back				
	Country	x 4		\$139.99	\$119.99
RIO -	Fly lines				
	Gold	x 3		\$139.99	\$119.99
	Grand	x3		\$139.99	\$119.99
	Trout	x 5		\$139.99	\$119.99
Riverworks -					
	Furnace Wading Socks			\$49.99	\$34.99
	Tongariro Wading Socks			\$59.99	\$44.99
	Tongariro Wading Jacket			\$299.99	\$199.99
	Fly Master vest			\$59.99	\$49.99
	Ron Thompson vest			\$29.99	\$19.99
Snowbee -	Wading Socks				
	Neo Standard			\$35.00	\$29.99
	Neo Soft			\$59.99	\$49.99

Due to Product numbers and sizing, there are certain products left.

Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

30 th June	[MM]	Members Video & Photo night plus photo competition
7 th July	(CM)	Fly tying
28 th July	[AGM]	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
2 nd August		Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am
4 th August	(CM)	Arrange the calendar for the next season
8-9 th August		Club day out, fishing practice
25 th August	[MM]	

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
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- Editor Johnny Mauchline, 10 Carlyle Street, Matura (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 Dave Murphy, 35 Brown Road, Invercargill dmurphy@southnet.co.nz (03 230 4698)
or (0276752324)

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, Ken Browne.

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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