

“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

Govt water quality commitment 'well overdue'



Fish & Game has welcomed the government's intention to develop a new national plan to halt the decline in water quality and improve rivers, lakes and streams.

The Environment Minister David Parker says a new national plan is being developed to manage freshwater quality. It will be compulsory for regional councils to follow the plan.

Mr Parker says the National Policy Statement on Freshwater will set new limits for nutrient runoff into rivers and lakes, and no longer allow regional councils to approve intensive farming as a "permitted activity".

Fish & Game's Chief Executive Martin Taylor is welcoming the move.

"This decision is well overdue. Intensive farming – particularly dairy – has been increasingly damaging our waterways for 20 years and this is the first significant government action to face up to the problem and do something about it," Mr Taylor says.

Martin Taylor says the time is right for a determined effort to address this country's deteriorating water quality.

"The public is increasingly worried about the declining quality of the water in our rivers, lakes and streams.

"The recent Colmar Brunton survey conducted for Fish & Game showed three quarters of people are extremely or very concerned about pollution of lakes and rivers.

"And the survey also revealed that more than 70 percent of New Zealanders say commercial businesses – including farming – should pay for the impact they have on the environment.

"This is a powerful mandate from New Zealanders supporting government action," Mr Taylor says.

Martin Taylor says improving water quality will require many farmers to take action.

"This is going to require a change of thinking among some members of the farming community.

"The scientific research is already there showing you can be a profitable dairy farm without destroying the environment," he says. "To their credit, some modern farmers are already ahead of the curve on this issue and are already doing their bit to protect the environment," he says.

"However, those dragging the chain are going to require firm leadership from not only organisations like Federated Farmers, but also by the big agri-business companies like Fonterra and Dairy NZ."

Martin Taylor says change is overdue.

"In the past, voters did not know about the environmental damage caused by intensive farming – but now they do," he says. "This means all political parties now have to have meaningful policies to improve water quality.

"Those parties which do not reset their environmental policies will struggle to hold their existing voter support, let alone grow it.

"New Zealanders don't want water quality to be a political football – it is too important for that".



Cover photo by Johnny Mauchline

Excellent fly and photography by Mark Giorgio

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

John Gierach

Fishing Report By Redtag



I will repeat my opening paragraph from last month's report.

The rivers and streams have been up and down like a yo-yo yet again in the past month. Most unusual for this time of the year when we normally experience settled weather and good conditions on the rivers and streams. The fishing has been challenging and tough going. Finding not only fishable water but then finding cooperative fish out and about feeding in the runs or flats has been difficult at times.

With the only river fishing now available from the Gore bridge downstream until the end of May it usually results in splendid autumn fishing to rising fish keyed into significant hatches of Mayfly. This year has been so different. My records show I have caught 53 fish in April and May so far. That is way down on previous years where the average was about 150.



There has been significant hatches of mayfly usually in the early afternoon but with the river up above true fishable levels the trout have not always responded to the hatch. The short windows of opportunity have been sporadic and I have spent more time looking at the water than fishing hoping to see some action. Occasionally this does happen and the fish are very responsive taking duns and emergers freely off the top. Best flies are CDC duns and emergers with Dads Favourites always an excellent standby to the more selective fish.

I have had some good spells from time to time with fish rising prolifically around me in the water. With the glare off the lower sun at this time of the year it does give you an advantage to get up close to rising fish as I believe they cannot see you as well as they do when the sun is high in the sky. This close quarter fishing is exciting and subtle presentation makes all the difference to fish that are a rods length away from you in the water.

With the river up and high although clear drag from the faster flow and current is the enemy so the closer you can get to the fish the better.

Only a few opportunities left till the ultimate end of the season so here's hoping the long range forecast will improve and we can get some good fishing before packing the rods away.

Redtag



Last fish of the Tassie season by John Morwood



Tasmanian Club member John Morwood's last fish of the Tassie trout fishing season caught in his favourite local stream. Fish Took a #18 grey shaving brush emerger. There was a light Baetid hatch on & the odd riser. Nice fish for the stream where 1lb is average. Good, hard fishing.

Action photos from recent outings by Johnny Mauchline



June Fly Tying Competition - Parachute Adams by Dave Harris

I have found this to be a great fly on both the Aparima and the Oreti. Just today I was out at Wyndham and had about 8 hits on one of these. Unfortunately the fish were quite small and only a couple of them came to the net. On my last trip to the Aparima this season I landed 4 rising fish on one as well. I use it in size 16 & 18 usually with a white post but I also use an orange post for different light conditions.

Every pattern I have seen for this fly is different. This is how I tie them. I actually prefer the look of a calf hair post but getting a post with enough body that you can see it on the water is very difficult without finishing up with much too fat a body behind the post.



Materials:

Hook	Black Magic E16 (1x short dry fly hook)
Thread	Grey unithread 8/0
Post	White poly yarn or McFlylon
Tail	Bristles from a grey/white synthetic paint brush (or white fiblets)
Dubbing	Superfine dry fly dubbing – adams grey
Hackles	one brown and one grizzle



Run the thread half way down the hook
Tie in the post across the top of the hop (about 4 turns). I use ½ thickness of the poly yarn as it will be doubled when tied on.



Stand the two halves of the post up and bind thread up the post.



Tie in the two hackles, tying them on just in front of the post and then binding them to the post. They will get in the way as you tie the rest of the fly but just put up with this.



Run the thread to the tail and tie in about 5 tail fibres (same length as body)



Dub the body taking the dubbing past the post to the eye and finish with the thread behind the post.



Wind the hackles around the post going down the post. 2 turns with each hackle. Try and get them a bit flatter than those in the photos. Tie off hackles between the hackles and the body around the post. Trim hackles and whip finish around the post under the hackles. Trim the post to height. Put a dab of cement on both side of the whip finish.

Presidents Report by Dave Harris

Well we are just about through the river fishing season with only a few rivers still open and most of those closing at the end of the month.

The past month has been pretty tough for fishing with the weather poor and high rivers. I have been out a few times and as the month has worn on the conditions have improved and I have had a couple of interesting days on the Mataura with mayflies coming off during the afternoon and fish rising. In the last week on April I also had some good outings, especially on the Aparima, although I was mystified one day when there were plenty of mayflies but no fish rising. Next time I was out on the Aparima (my last trip there for the season) there was a good rise and I landed a few fish on dry flies.

Clearly with the fishing season over it is time to get back to fly tying. The Club fly tying competition starts this month so get your fly tied and along to the meeting to be in the competition. This month's fly is the black creeper and instructions were in last month's Ripples. Also on the fly tying front we have two fly tying days coming up. The first is on June 9th and some of us will be at Fish & Game from 9:00am to about 4:00pm (except for a break for lunch). The second fly tying day is in August and is on Sunday August 5th, also at Fish & Game in Eye Street.

Also coming up is our Annual Dinner. This year we will be going to Louies in Dee Street at 7:00pm on June 9th. After many years going to Ainos we have had to change as Ainos has gone. We have an exchange of gifts at dinner so if you and your partner come along each should bring a gift valued at about \$5 (the sillier the better).

That's it for this month, just try and get out to those rivers that are still open and catch a few fish.

Competitions

Fish Competition.

I will still accept cards for the fish competition for this season until the June Monthly Meeting.

Fly Tying Competition.

This month's fly is the black creeper. This was described in last month's Ripples. With the fly tying competition, all flies entered on a night go in a draw for a Hunting & Fishing voucher. Points are awarded for the competition by member votes. Be in to win.

The June Fly is a parachute adams dry fly. Instructions elsewhere in this Ripples.

Club Dinner




Louies, Dee Street 9th June 7:00pm

If attending contact Chris McDonald (027) 4237 016

Bring a funny gift (about \$5)

Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

22 nd May		Mid-week Trip – Dave Harris 027 201 6722
26/27 th May		Lodge Trip – End of Season run, close Lodge
29 th May	[MM]	
5 th June	(CM)	Fly Tying
9 th June		Fly Tying for club members by club members - Meal at night, (\$5 funny gift)
26 th June	[MM]	Members Video & Photo night plus photo competition
3 th July	(CM)	Fly tying
31 st July	[AGM]	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)

Club Contacts

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Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Simon Budd
- 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, 17 Eye St, West Invercargill, Invercargill 9810. [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

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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