

“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

Fishing Report by Redtag



Just a couple of photos from a late season trip this month



Presidents Report by Dave

Well the season is well and truly over and winter is here. My season didn't finish as well as it could have as I had planned a couple of trips during the last week of May to my usual late May river but it was far too high to fish. Everything else was also well above normal so there was no fishing to be had.

However, I did manage a couple of trips out prior to the Lodge trip, one up Te Anau way and the other to the Lower Waiau. On the first stream, spotting was difficult due to the light conditions. For a change it was not due to cloud as there wasn't any. This time the problem was the sun itself, very bright but much too low in the sky. There seemed to be less fish around than I had seen early in the month but I still had a good day, landing fish on both nymph and dry fly.

A couple of days later I headed out to the lower Waiau. Again, the sun was out and there was a lot of reflection making it difficult to see dry flies or indicators at times. This is a big river so I don't expect to spot fish, it is just a case of fishing some likely looking water (and there is plenty of that). At one stage I waded well out into the river to where there was a gravel bar that was almost above water. Much to my surprise there was a nice brown resting in shallow water. He was pretty keen on my dry fly and came to the net. After this I moved to another access a little further downstream and landed a couple more to bring the tally to six for the day.

At our June meeting we have our members photo & video night as well as our photo competition (see details on P6). Please bring along some photos or videos of your outing this year on a memory stick so we can all see what you have been up to on your trips.

In August we have another Fly Tying Day on the 3rd and the following weekend we will have a stand at the Boat Show at the Stadium. We will need people to man the stand on both Saturday and Sunday (and demonstrate your fly tying skills) and we will also need some to help with setting up the stand Friday evening and to take it down on Sunday. Your assistance would be appreciated.

May Lodge Trip by Dave

Chris, Simon and I set off on Friday night for the Lodge. We were a bit short of room as I was returning two of the mattresses (that I had shortened to fit the end bunks) but managed to get everything in.

Sarah arrived early on Saturday to join in for the day. Simon and I set off for the Eglinton while Sarah and Chris headed elsewhere.

Simon and I went into the river about 10km above the lake and walked down a bit before starting to fish. We went further down than what I had planned but this looked to give us some better fishing. The river had plenty of water and, unfortunately, a bit of colour. The colour is not unusual for the Eglinton as it drains some quite high country and often has a blue tinge.

The colour made spotting a bit difficult but we were able to spot the odd fish and soon I was on the board with a brown in the net. At a big drop off I managed to hook and lose one and then hooked up on a rainbow. There was no way I could get it close enough to net it myself but Simon came along at the right time and netted it for me. We spotted a couple more before a change in river direction made spotting a lot more difficult. From here it was pretty much blind fishing the likely water.

By now we were also getting some rain showers but we continued up past where the car was parked. At one point I decided not to cross as the water looked too deep but Simon went across anyway (and got fairly wet doing so). He landed a rainbow in the next run while I walked around some bush and fished a little further up, also landing another rainbow. By then it was starting to get a bit darker and it was time to head for home. This meant a couple more river crossings but these were not too bad. Our total for the day was 6 fish, 2 browns and 4 rainbows.

From here it was back to the Mossburn Pub where Chris was waiting for us, Sarah having dropped him off there before heading home.

Saturday night there was a lot of wind and rain and on Sunday morning the ES website showed the Upukerora up a bit but maybe still fishable so we headed back to Te Anau. We found a very high and dirty river so headed down to Queens Reach to see what the Upper Waiau looked like. It didn't look too bad but the thunder and lightning (as well as the rain) discouraged us somewhat. We headed back into Te Anau for a coffee before heading back to the Lodge. On the way back we made a bit of a detour to show Simon how to get to Lake Thomas but didn't go to the lake itself as the weather conditions were still very poor.

We had lunch at the Lodge then packed up and headed home.



Simon looking for fish in the Eglinton River. Nothing there.

Final Day by Chris

Last Saturday of the season. Sarah met us at the lodge and it was off to fish a high country stream she had never fished before. Dave and Simon headed further north to another river. Typical end of season weather, cold, some wind and threatening to bucket down at any time. We went to the 4th access and headed slightly downstream towards some pools that had fished well in previous years. Not this year.

The morning resulted in about 8 fish sighted. 4 fished to, a couple of takes by Sarah but nothing landed. Sarah chose to re fish the pool we stopped for lunch at and I fished a small gut slightly upstream. A nice 2lb brown took pity on me and after some spirited runs was landed. Back down to the car and off downstream to the 2nd access. Bugger, a guide from Gore was already there.

Too lazy to go elsewhere, the weather was starting to come in so we decided we may as well fish up behind him. Good choice. Sarah fished to a fish spotted on the bottom of the first deep pool. Successful hook up and then the fun began. The fish stayed deep and went all over the pool including a nice jump over the far side. Unfortunately after another solid run it got off. Sarah was about as happy as I am when I lose a very good fish. However she was way more polite about it than I normally am.

We fished up another couple of pools without success and then found that the river had reverted back to its usual course further up. It was a little deeper than normal where we would usually cross so we went further upstream. We crossed over, Sarah fished some nice rainbow water while I headed downstream to the water we had walked around. It was worth it as a smaller brown took the nymph and made it to the bank.

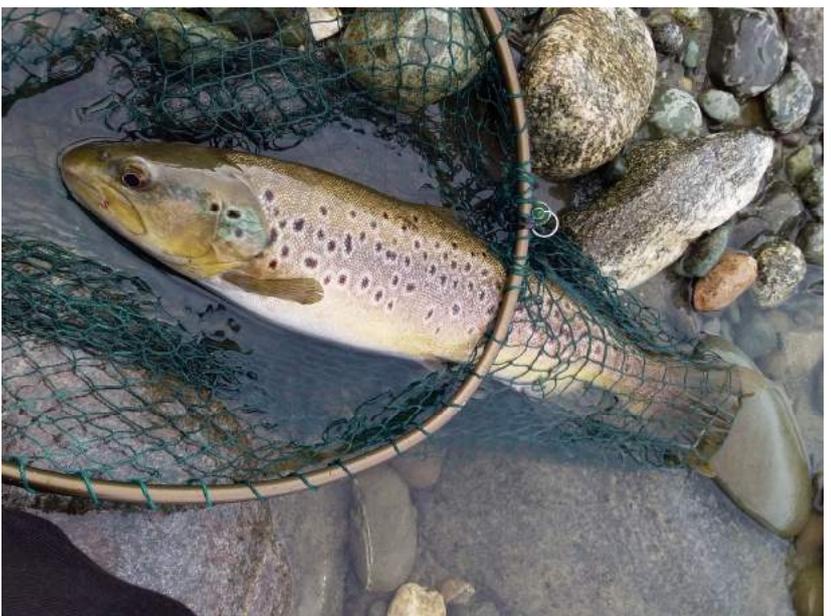
We were fishing up to the ford when we saw a 4 wheel drive coming up the track. It stopped opposite us for a while and then carried on upstream. It entered the ford at a hell of a rush then immediately stopped. It then backed out. The driver got out stood on a rock looked at the water got back in, drove into the ford then downstream for a while crossed over went back upstream and then out of the river. What a performance for a simple ford.

We fished up to the ford and decided that the water immediately above it had to be fished. Sarah fished close in while I waded to midstream and fished the far side. A big splash and a rainbow had hit the dry fly. It put on a great show and pulled me all over the pool and downstream. Some where amongst the struggle it dislodged the dry fly but hooked itself in the tail with the nymph. I had it almost close enough to net three times and the fourth time it went between my legs. I nearly fell in trying to step over my line with a huge bow in the rod. The fish stayed on and was eventually landed. A 3.25 lb rainbow. Hopefully Sarah hasn't got my efforts on film. Time will tell.

The 4 wheel drive then returned from upstream and after yet another all over the world performance crossed over. We decided to call it a day. The dark clouds that had been in the distance all day had moved closer and it looked like we were about to get wet. A short walk including crossing the ford that was little more than knee deep had a us back to the car just as it stated to rain.

Back to the Mossburn pub before Sarah headed home and I waited for Dave and Simon to arrive. They were some time. Apparently, they weren't allowed to stop till Simon had landed something. They had also been severely rained on several times and some one may have fallen in.

Now its the off season so time to tie some flies.



Cover Photo by Chris

Sarah doing battle with a good fish on the last Saturday of May. Unfortunately the fish was not landed..

Fly Tying Day by Dave

The June fly tying day was held on June 8th at the Fish & Game offices. It looked like it was going to be a really quiet day, with just Chris and I there in the morning. Chris concentrated on tying flies for next year's Fly Fishing Course while I started out with some green stoneflies. These green stoneflies are a bit complex to tie but I was happy to get 10 tied before lunch. I tied these using some "realistic" tungsten beads rather than round beads. They look good but I don't think they will work any better.

After lunch we were joined by John R and Murray so at least we had 4 people. I decided I needed to tie something simple so tied some hare & copper nymphs with fluorescent orange beads and finished off with some parachute adams with orange posts.

Chris decided to try a couple of my green stonefly pattern but with slight variation due to what materials he had. They looked good. Meanwhile both John and Murray were concentrating on pheasant tail nymphs as required for the competition at the June meeting.

A pretty good day but we could have done with a few more people there. We have another tying day on August 3rd at Fish & Game.

Club Dinner by Dave



As usual we held our Club Dinner after our Fly Tying Day on June 8th. We again headed to the Cabbage Tree for this and there was a good turnout of ten people.

A good meal was enjoyed by all then we had the normal present swapping. There were a lot of chocolate bars this year and one or two were reluctant to swap them when requested but we all enjoyed the fun. However we decided next year there will be no chocolate.

May Monthly Meeting by Dave

We had Nick Reygaert, from Gin-Clear Media, along to talk to us. He showed us a very interesting video of a trip to Durassic Lake in Argentina and then gave a presentation on local saltwater fly fishing (mainly from Fiordland). It was great to have Nick down and his presentation was very interesting. Thanks Nick for making the effort to come.

Dave and Nick trying to get the projector to work for Nick's presentation.



Olive Woolly Bugger by Chris



Materials:

Hook: Black Magic B10
Weight: 0.10 lead wire
Thread: Olive 6/0
Tail: Olive marabou
Body: Olive chenille
Rib: Copper wire
Hackle: Brown hackle



Instructions:

1. Secure lead wire 8-10 winds
2. At the point above the hook barb, measure and clip a small bunch of marabou feathers (the tail length should be the same length as the hook shank) and tie them down to the hook shank.
3. Strip the end of the chenille to the core and tie in the core above the hook barb.
4. Tie in the copper wire at the same point. Take thread up the hook almost to the eye.
5. Select a brown hackle that has fibres about two times the length of the hook gape. Tie in 3 mm behind the eye.
6. Wrap the chenille up the length of the hook shank until you reach the hackle. Tie it off with the thread and clip off the excess.
7. Take the hackle fibre and stroke the fibres backwards with your fingers. Palmer the hackle down the hook to the tail. Tie the hackle in with a wrap of the copper wire. Snap the excess hackle off.
8. Wrap the copper wire forward up the length of the hook shank (trying not to catch any of the hackle fibres) and tie it in behind the eye. Clip off the excess.
9. With the thread, build a small, neat head and then whip finish and cement the head thoroughly.

Competitions



May winner



May fly tying competition entries

Fly Tying Competition

Last month's Fly Tying Competition saw 6 hare's ear nymphs entered. The winner on the night was Dave Harris and Julie Cook won the Hunting & Fishing draw.

This month's fly is the pheasant tail (in Ripples last month) and July's fly will be Chris McDonald's olive woolly bugger (details above).

Photo Competition.

The annual photo competition will be held at the June meeting (Tuesday 25th June). There are four categories: trophy, action, scenic and general. You can enter up to three prints in each category. These must be 7" x 5" and must be from the past season.

Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

25 th June	MM	Members Video & Photo night plus photo competition
2 nd July	CM	Fly tying
30 th July	AGM	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
3 rd August		Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am
6 th August	CM	Arranging the calendar for the next season
10/11th August		Boat Show.

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
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- Editor Vacant - Send articles to Dave Harris dcharris@southnet.co.nz
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 Chris McDonald.

Club Sponsors



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