

“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

2021 President's Report by Dave

President's Annual Report 2021

Another season of fishing is over but it was quite a different season with no overseas anglers on the high country rivers and the new ballot rules in play on the Clinton and Worsley Rivers. The weather was variable and river conditions needed to be checked before heading out to make sure the rivers were in suitable condition. Hopefully you all managed to spend plenty of time on the river or lake and caught a good number of fish in spite of the situation.

Our annual casting day was held at Queens Park as usual on the Sunday before the season opened and attracted an acceptable number of people, both members and nonmembers.

We had fly tying demonstrations on two Saturdays in September at Hunting and Fishing and Chris and I also attended a night for beginner fly anglers put on by Manic Tackle at Hunting and Fishing. We had a stand at the "On the Fly" festival in Gore. Thanks to those who helped out with these.

We held our normal fly fishing course with our usual tutor Mike Weddell from Mosgiel again this year. Once again, we received generous sponsorship support from Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle. We thank them for their support and trust that people will support them in return. The course was fully subscribed this year but the Mataura River was above normal and had a bit of colour for the course. We had to move to the Wyndham Racecourse for the day on the river but the fish were not co-operative. Thanks go to all those who helped out on the course.

Thanks also go to those who helped out with the running of the Club - Chris McDonald continued his duties as Secretary Treasurer, doing a good job as usual, Julie Cook for her duties as Vice President, David Murphy continued as custodian for the Lodge and has ensured it is up to scratch and Simon Budd who continued as Club Librarian.

The Lodge working bee was just a bit of a cleanup this year. We had further water issues at the Lodge with the farmer carrying out significant modifications to his water system leaving us without supply for a time. The Lodge was hardly used during the season with our Australian members unable to enter the country.

The number of fish entered in the Club competition was about the same last year and again probably reflected the fishing conditions during much of the season, with rivers often too high to fish. There were two members who put in a card every month. The number of big fish was down on previous seasons as was the size with the largest being 6½lb. The fly-tying competition attracted about the same number of entries as last year. Two members entered a fly each month, down on last year. The junior trophy will not be awarded this year due to the lack of juniors. The photo competition was held as usual at the June meeting. Numbers were a little higher than last year. Congratulations to those who took out the trophies this year in the annual competitions. Sponsorship of the fish and fly tying competitions was from Invercargill Hunting and Fishing.

As normal some of the monthly day trips were cancelled due to weather or river conditions. Those who did go on the Club trips enjoyed themselves and caught fish in all sorts of conditions. This year we had several shift worker/retiree mid-week trips but support could have been better.

Three weekend Lodge trips received reasonable support but the weather was not great for any of the trips. The November trip didn't go ahead due to lack of interest.

We had fly tying days in August and June. The August day attracted about the usual number of members and the turnout for the June day was also about normal. Those who attended the fly tying managed to tie a good number of flies including most of those required for next year's fishing course. We had two Club dinners as last year's dinner was postponed until August and we had our usual dinner following the June Fly Tying Day. Both received reasonable support.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors -Corys Electrical, Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle for their support.

Dave Harris

President 2020-2021.

2021 Competition Report by Dave

Annual Competitions 2020-2021

Fly-Tying

Entries in the fly-tying competition were down by just one fly on last year with a total of 26 flies entered over the five months. However, we were down on the number of people who entered flies with just seven people entering flies and only two of those managed a fly every month. As usual there were some fine flies produced by the members. One member was first or first equal every month and was well clear of the field at the end of the competition although it would have been much closer if the second placed member had entered a fly for the final month.

Fish Competition

Fish numbers entered in the last season's fish competition were up a little on the previous year's entry with 33 fish entered, 31 browns and two rainbows. The competition started off strongly with seven fish entered in October but numbers dropped from then. There were only seven fish 5lb or over this season caught by three members. These fish were all browns and came from the Wairaki River, the Oreti River (3), the Weydon Burn, the Mararoa River and the Upukerora River. These fish were caught on a green stonefly nymph, pheasant tail (2), Royal Wulff, hare & copper, blowfly and a horn caddis nymph.

Only two members entered a fish for each month of the season. The winner's total was 35¾lbs, which was only 3lb more than last season in spite of the contest running over seven months this year instead of six last season. Second was well behind. The winner's fish came from the Oreti River (3), the Weydon Burn, the Mararoa River, the Mataura River and Wairaki River. They were caught on green stonefly, hare & copper, blow fly, pheasant tail nymph (2) and Royal Wulff (2).

The heaviest browns were down on last year at 6½lb (two caught by the same member). The heaviest rainbow was 4½lb. Best condition factor was well down on last year at 47.02 and was a 6½lb brown from the Oreti River.

Photo Competition.

The annual photo competition was held in June with a good number of entries. The scenic section was close and four members were tied for this section. The other three sections had clear winners, with two of those being members who had also tied for first in the scenic section.

2021 Annual General Meeting

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Southland Fly Fishing Club (Inc) will be held at the Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill at 7:30pm on Tuesday 27th July.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Matters arising from minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Matters arising from correspondence
6. Presidents Report
7. Annual Accounts
8. Subscriptions
9. Librarian's Report
10. Lodge Report
11. Editor's Report
12. Competitions Report
13. Election of officers
14. Signatories to bank account
15. Most valuable member
16. General Business
17. Prize giving

Chris McDonald

Secretary/Treasurer

Competitions by Dave

The June fly was a Kilwell No.1 as a tribute to late member John Day. This was John's favourite fly when he lived in Rotorua and I would like to thank Phil Trautmann, an old friend of John's, for providing the tying instructions and materials for this fly. We had six flies entered in the competition and the winner was Gerda who entered the fly tying competition for the first time. What a great start to fly tying for her.



August Competition Fly

Pheasant Tail Nymph – unweighted Tying Instructions Chris McDonald

This is one of the hundreds of variants for a PTN. This is the fly I use in shallow water or as an emerger tied off a parachute Adams on the Mataura.

Hook: Black Magic A16
Thread: Brown
Tail, Body, and Wingcase: Pheasant Tail
Thorax: Brown Thread or Brown Dubbing

Step 1

Tie thread to hook at the eye and take down to the bend in the hook. Leave some excess thread.

Step 2

Tie in 3 or 4 pheasant tail fibres as a short tail. Take thread 2/3 way back to the eye.

Step 3

Wind pheasant tail along hook to thread and catch with a couple of turns of thread. Finish with pheasant tail on top of the hook.

Step 4

Wind excess thread along pheasant tail as a rib and tie it off.

Step 5

Use thread or dubbing to form thorax. Finish with thread at the eye.

Step 6

Take pheasant tail fibres over the thorax to form a wingcase. Catch at the eye with two turns of thread.

Step 7

Take thread back to behind the thorax. Push pheasant tail wing case back from the eye with your thumb to double the wingcase and tie off with one or two turns.

Step 8

Whip finish at back of thorax and trim off excess pheasant tail. Apply drop of cement to the whip finish.

Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8



Photo Competition Winners

The annual photo competition was held at the June meeting. Section winners were decided by member's vote. In the scenic section there were 4 photos that received the same number of votes. All other sections had a clear winner.



Winner General Section - Dave Harris



Winner Trophy Section - Amy Grundy



1st Equal Scenic Section - Amy Grundy



1st Equal Scenic Section - Julie Cook



1st Equal Scenic Section - Dave Harris



1st Equal Scenic Section - Gerda Johnstone

Cover Photo by Chris Cowie

Winner of the Action Section of the photo competition.

Fly Tying Day - August 15th

We have another fly tying day on Sunday August 15th at the Fish & Game Office, 17 Eye Street, Invercargill. We will be there from 9:00am to 4:00pm but with a break for lunch. Mike Weddell will be down for this day and will be available to help anyone out with any level of fly tying. Mike has been tying flies for many years and is very good at both tying flies and teaching others how to tie them. If you have any fly pattern that you would like to learn to tie this is a good opportunity to see how it is done. It is a long time since we have had Mike down for fly tying so you need to make the most of this opportunity. I am sure he will have some fly tying materials with him so it may be a chance to stock up on some hard to find supplies.

Boat Show - August 7th & 8th

The Southland Trailer Yacht Squadron is holding its bi-annual boat show at Stadium Southland on August 7th & 8th. As usual we will have a stand at the boat show to promote the Club. We will have members tying flies or just talking to the public about fly fishing.

We will need members to help out with setting up on Friday afternoon, members to man the stand and demonstrate fly tying on both Saturday and Sunday and then to help dismantle the stand and take everything back to Fish & Game on Sunday afternoon. If you can help give Dave a ring on 027 201 6722 or let him know at the next meeting.

The show runs from 10:00am to 6:00pm Saturday and 10:00am to 4:00pm Sunday. Set up will be Friday afternoon and everything has to come down straight away on Sunday afternoon.

Fish & Game Ministerial Review by Dave

There has been a lot of talking about the Fish & Game Ministerial Review and the recommendations in it. Fish & Game Regions and New Zealand Council have put in a combined submission on these recommendations to the Minister.

The biggest concern from almost all was the makeup of the Councils, with not enough elected members and too many appointed members. The method of electing the NZ Council was also discussed at length but no consensus could be reached on the best solution. One thing that was clear was that most considered that there needed to be a representative from each region on the NZ Council and that person had to have some connection with the Regional Council to ensure there was good communication between the Regional Councils and the NZ Council.

The review recommended that the chairman of the NZ Council be an appointment. This has not found favour with anyone as the chairman is very important in the overall running of the organisation and needs to have the confidence of the council. The council also needs to have the ability to replace the chairman if they lose confidence in the chair. This means the chair has to be elected by the New Zealand Council.

The proposals for amalgamations met with many different ideas. The recommendation back to the Minister was that before any amalgamations take place that the costs and benefits be analysed. There will be no amalgamations before this year's elections, so Regional Councils will be elected as they have in the past with up to 12 members on each council.

Some of the recommendations that were accepted by most included changing the system so that all full season licence holders were automatically on the roll as voters rather than having to opt in as they do at present. However, this won't happen in time for this year's election.

Apparently there have been a number of similar reports over the years, most of which look to have been an attempt by DOC or their predecessors to take over Fish & Game or prior to Fish & Game being formed, the Acclimatisation Societies. Other than the change from the Acclimatisation Societies to Fish & Game, none of these reports has resulted in significant changes. That does not mean this one will not result in a number of changes as there has been an implementation committee set up so it is likely some of the changes will occur.

Coming Events (MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

27 th July	AGM	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
3 rd August	CM	Arranging the calendar for the next season
7 th & 8 th August		Southland Boat Show
15 th August		Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am
31 st August	MM	This meeting will be held at Hunting & Fishing
4 th Sept		Fly Tying demonstration @ Hunting & Fishing*
5 th Sept		Club Trip (winter) Fish & Game 9:00am*
7 th Sept	CM	Fly tying
12 th Sept		Lodge Working Bee*
18 th Sept		Fly Tying demonstration @ Hunting & Fishing*

* To be confirmed

Club Contacts

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- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
- President Dave Harris, 30 Baxter Street Invercargill (03 215 6068) dcharris@southnet.co.nz
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- Editor 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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